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Selected Extracts from the Confidential Report on RAMPA DISTURBANCES

1922 — 1924

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Selected Extracts from the Confidentiel Report on Rampa Disturbance 1922-1924

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History of Freedom Movement

H. F. M. B. NO. 8.

(b. Paper)

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SECRET REPORTS RETAINED FILE NO.

Extracts from Secret Reports Relating to:- Rampa disturbances (1922-1924)

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SELECT EXTRACTS FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL REPORT ON RAMPA DISTURBANCES.

CAUSE AND OBJECT. (Section one)

During the progress of this tour I have collected some information as to the object of the fituri and how it made such progress at the star without the knowledge of myself or the District Superintendent of Police.

The object of the fituri is to establish Alluri Rama Raju as king of Gudem, his kingdom extending throughout Gudem taluk. This man has been endeavouring to stir up the countryside for some months particularly last February. He has evidently been instigated by the non-co-operators or their propaganda for he led the shout of 'Gandhi-ki-jai' after the looting of the Chintapalli Police station; and he firmly believes that he is intended by Providence to be a ruler on earth. His immediate object was to collect arms and ammunition. His first followers were drawn from the Peddavalasa and Makaram muttas. There was probably some public feeling in the Gudem mutta that Muttadam Virayya Dora was not being treated fairly and he was able to take advantage of this to raise recruits from that mutta, holding out hopes of the release of Virayya Dora from custody at Rajavommangi where his case had been posted for trial on the 24th August. (Part I. Page 4.)

(Letter from F.W. Stewart, I.C.S., Agency Commissioner in charge to the Chief Secretary to Government dated Camp, Narsapatam, 11th September 1922)

The Raju has great influence over the gang and is treated like a 'devudu' (god). He says that he is invulnerable and that he has started this fituri in order to 'obtain twenty-six districts' (become Governor of the Madras Presidency?). He is constantly exhorting the rebels to kill all the European and Indian officers who he apparently considers are his chief obstacle to becoming Governor. (Part II. Page 59)

(Report on the rebellion dated 8th October 1922 by A.J. Happell).

The latest information is that Sitarama Raju himself aspires to become the ruler of the country round about.(Part I. Page 6)

(Letter from R.A. Graham, Chief Secretary to Government of Madras to the Secretary Government of India, Home Department, dated 16th September 1922).

Dawson's information was that the rebels were said to have moved towards Jeypore via Anantagiri and he concludes with the rumour that the Raju has raised this show to get guns and ammunition for non-co-operators in Northern India, and that he intends to make tracks across the Central Provinces when he has got enough.(Part I. Page 23)

(Demi-Official from Fort St. George Gazette, dated 28th August 1922)

There was to be celebrated the goddess festival at Gudem and it was for this purpose Virayya Dora had been taken, as from time immemorial a Gudem muttadar has always taken the most prominent part in it. (Part I. Page 26)

(Demi-Official from Fort St. George Gazette, dated 29th August1922)

Some of the captured rebels have been examined as to what grievances might have led to the rebellion. They are practically unanimous in saying that the Deputy Tahsildar Bastian and his overseer had underpaid and maltreated those working on the roads, No other grievances have been mentioned and there have been no complaints about our forest policy. The Gam brothers seem to have a special grievance against the Deputy Tahsildar in connexion with some lands (Part III. Page 164).

(Letter from J.R. Huggins, Agency Commissioner dated 15th December 1922)

Question by Gantam Dora:- I have been making enquiries about you in all the villages I have been visiting and I hear very good reports about you and I am very glad that you enjoy the confidence of the hill men and are very popular. But Bastian behaved very cruelly and did so many wrongs to the people in this taluk that I do not find time to narrate them. Please hear my story. Bastian deprived me of my lands and gave them away to Sumarla Peddabbi. I begged him in so many ways not to ruin me. I sat at his feet on a particular day entreating him not to ruin me and he kicked me with his shoes thrice. I was not given the entire portion of the land ordered to be delivered to me. Then I became disgusted with my life and sent away my wife and children from my village. I afterwards clung to the feet of Razu Garu

and....

and thus descended into this madness. For good or for bad I descended into this madness and I am determined to see the end. (The last two sentences are a literal translation of what Gantam Dora spoke in Telugu) My house also was burnt. If you had been the Tahsildar of this taluk instead of Bastian, we would have been very happy. It was our misfortune to have Bastian as our Tahsildar. I aimed my gun at him in the Onjeri attack, but, fortunately for him, my shot missed him. I shall one day or other go to Pottanghi and kill him. Either that fellow should die in my hands or I should die in his hands.

Answer:- You extol me so much. The man against whom you have complained received no injuries at the hands of your rebels, but I have been unnecessarily belaboured by them to-day.

Question:- Babu Garu! You are a Brahman of Brahmans. I crave your pardon. That is the offence committed by my fools.

So saying he rose up abruptly and prostrated himself before me and went away in haste taking the muttadar with him towards the mango tope outside the compound of the house where the fituridars were ~~maing~~ making loud noise. It was about 6-45 p.m.

While speaking to me, Gantam Dora asked the muttadar why he and the village munsif of Cheedipalem handed up a Vojulu man to Government: and Gantam Dora told him that Razu received this information and sent him specially for investigating this. He also said that Razu did not purposely send Mallu Dora and Boddayya Dora for this business for fear that they should kill the muttadar and that the muttadar should thank his stars for being saved by him that day. Gantam Dora bragged in my presence that his warfare is a just one and that he never troubled anyone for rations and that his policy is to take supplies without giving trouble to the villagers. He added with an air of satisfaction, that during the last nine months not even one man who was taken to him or to Razu was killed.(Page 261. Part V).

(Letter from the Deputy Tahsildar to the Agency Commissioner dated 3rd June 1923) Note:- The extract is taken from the report of the Deputy Tahsildar, who had been ~~XXX~~ captured and taken before Gantam Dora He had a long conversation with the Deputy Tahsildar in course of it, the leader told the latter some causes for the out break of the disturbances. The above extract contained that portion.

A letter from Raju to a friend in Tuni has been captured in which he says that he started the campaign thinking that battle is inevitable in the country's safety. This makes clear his intention of waging war against the King. (Part I. Page 41.)

(Demi-official from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner, Vizag
dated 17th September 1922).

I commenced battle. Till now our army encountered British Army at four places and defeated it. At each place the success is on our side by God's grace. I am quite confident that in future also success will be on our side by God's grace. In due pursuance of our former friendship, I request you to come down at once. 'Birth is surely attended with death.' Every man dies when the turn comes. Until time and karma are ripe no man will die wherever he might be. However well the body is looked after it must perish one day. Men are not immortal but fame and disgrace are eternal; virtue and sin are eternal. Battle is the province of Kshatriyas. It is stated in Bhagavat Gita that he who treats success and defeat, pain and pleasure, heat and cold alike, attains supreme bliss. If success is attained in our battle one enjoys worldly pleasure; if one dies in battle he will certainly enjoy the pleasures of Viraswarga. So, carefully considering all the above points I started the campaign thinking that battle is inevitable in the interests of the country's safety. I fully believe that you also will come to me immediately after receipt of this letter. I request you to kindly bring with you any others that might follow you. You can go over here once, and after seeing all my preparations and arrangements if you are not satisfied, you can go away. Kindly recollect our former friendship. Please bring without fail if Peketivari boy is there. My compliments to all friends.(Part I. Page 42).

(Letter from Sri Rama Raju to Sri Pericherla Suryanarayana Raju
dated 16th September 1922)

The only reason I have received from examinees, for the fituri starting is that the Government has not done justice to the Raju by recognizing him as king of Gudem. The chief desperado in it, Gam Ghantayya, and his brother Gam Mallayya have some grievance against the deputy tahsildar. Ghantayya is a convicted dacoit (I am having this verified). There are also suggestions that the deputy tahsildar has taken labour for road works without paying for it. This may be true and I shall inquire into it when the country is quieter, but from what I hear of the Agency immemorial custom of providing labour for which subordinate officials do not pay, I doubt whether it would now cause a fituri; though it might add to the strength of an existing fituri (Part I. Page 35)

(Demi-official from Stewart Agency Commissioner dated 12th September 1922).

* * *

The first waging war case has ended in the conviction of all the accused.(Part V. Page 273)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/1st July 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

The six rebels charged in the second waging war case have been convicted and sentenced to transportation for life. (Part V. Page 284)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/1st August 1923 by C.E.Sweney)

As regards the prosecutions instituted recently against certain village munsifs and izaradars for failing to report the movements of the rebels the trials of the izaradars of Badlagondi, Tallapalem and Kirabu have been completed and each of these izaradars has been sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment under section 176, Indian Penal Code.(Part V. Page 300)

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SELECT 60 EXTRACTS FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL REPORT ON RAMPA DISTURBANCES.

Leaders of the Movement: (Section. 2)

I am directed to state that little information has yet been obtained with regard to the origin and causes of the outbreak. It appears however to have been organized by one Alluri Sitarama Raju, a native of the Kistna district who has been living for some time past in what is now called the Rampa Agency subdivision and has obtained some reputation for sanctity among the local hill-men.(Part I. Page 6)

(Letter from R.A. Graham I.C.S. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department dated Fort St. George 16th September 1922).

Ramaraju (Alluri) is a Kistna man by origin. He first came to notice in the Peddavalasa mutta and was sent to reside in Addatigala. Both Fazl-ul-lah and Swire thought him quite harmless though I believe he acquired a great reputation for sanctity; this was why he got permission 'to go to Nepal.' (Part I. Page 21)

(Demi-official from C.A. Henderson, District Magistrate, Vizagapatam dated 26th August 1922).

The leader is Alluri Sitaramaraju, a man from Kistna who had obtained reverence from people around Serabhanapalem he being a holy man and pretending special influence with wild animals. He had been under police surveillance but was permitted by Mr. Fazl-ul-lah, Divisional Officer of Rampa Agency, on the 25th July to go on a pilgrimage to Nepal. He then appears to have taken advantage of the surveillance being stopped to return to Sarabhanapalem and raise people of that village and the Peddavalasa mutta. They are believed to have released at Rajavommangi one Virayya Dora who had been taken there in custody for trial under charge of breaking an order interning him at Vizianagram. He is an ex-muttadar of Gudem and the possible object is to reinstate him by force as Muttadar of Gudem. As no violence has been done to any one but constables it appears probable that the insurgents intended to collect arms and ammunition with some such ulterior object.(Part I. Page 21)

(Demi-official from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner, Vizagapatnam dated 27th August 1922).

Now in the last affair (Lagarayi) the muttadar of Gudem, Virayya Dora, was said to have been assisting, but for want of evidence he was not charged but was externed on an Agency warrant to Vizianagram. There he remained presumably happily till last year. I had only recently heard from Saunders that he had petitioned for leave to return home on the score of sickness. Anyhow he bolted and was prosecuted and convicted and at the end of his (two months) term was sent back to Vizianagram. This year again he did a bolt and was arrested by the Chintapalli police and charged and was kept in custody at the Prattipad subjail as there is no sub-jail at Addatigala.(Part I. Page 23 (Demi-official from Fort St. George dated 28th August 1922).

At Krishnadevipet I examined on oath a man who said he had been forced by the fituri to carry the ammunition they had looted and had bolted from them on the 23rd evening. He says that the Raju had been endeavouring to raise the country six months ago, he had addressed a meeting of village headmen, demanded a poll-tax of four annas a head and said he was going to establish his own kingdom. Unfortunately he had no information about their movements since he left them. He mentioned some names of leaders, one of whom, Gantam Dora, has a personal grievance against the Deputy Tahsildar. On the whole it appears to me that the adherents of the Raju are confined to the Peddavalasa mutta and are not likely to increase largely.(Part I. Page 25.) (Demi-official from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner 29th August 1922)

I asked Mottadam Virayya Dora whether Raju was mad, and he replied that he was not, but that he bathed and prayed daily. The aged rebel spoke of him with reverence as having a long beard and sometimes looking like an old man and sometimes like a young one. Even Fazl-ul-lah, the late Divisional Officer of the Rampa Agency, is said to have been flattered by Raju's prophecy that Fazl-ul-lah would obtain high office. It is therefore very probable that Raju has obtained a semi-divine position in the low country around Krishnadevipet. He will not permit looting of villages, although demanding supplies for a day or two from villages he passes through. This probably increases his hold on the villagers, but is probably rendering him unpopular with his army. (Part I. Page 35) (Demi-official from Stewart, Agency Commissioner, Vizag, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of India d/12th September 1922).

It is improbable that Raju will keep his hold on his followers much longer because he does not permit them to loot the countryside. The desperadoes of the gang headed by Gam Gantayya will probably soon drive Raju away and start a series of dacoities similar to those of the Lagarai gang. The numbers of the gang should be decreased by the admirers of Raju and the presence of so many police in the country should prevent any large increase from local known depredators.(Part I. Page 36)

(Demi-official from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner dated/13th September 1922)

The gang is said to be very discontented because the Raju will not allow looting nor drinking arrack. It is only their religious veneration for him which keeps them with him.(Part I. Page 41.)

(Demi-official from F. Armitage, Inspector-General of Police d/16th September 1922).

The Raju has great influence over the gang and is treated like a 'devudu' (God). He says that he is invulnerable and that he has started this fituri in order to 'obtain twenty -six districts' (become Governor of the Madras Presidency?). He is constantly exhorting the rebels to kill all the European and Indian officers who he apparently considers are his chief obstacle to becoming Governor. No further news of the rebels' movements has come in to-day. (Part II. Page 59.)

(Report on rebellion dated/8th October 1922 by A.J. Happell)

In his report for 13th June 1923 Sub-Inspector B. Ramaswami states that he encountered at Vanchangi a sadhu named yarda Subbarayudu, a fisherman by caste, of Lingamparti, Peddapur taluk, Godavari district, who is preaching to people that the Razu is a reincarnation of one of the heroes of the "Ramayana" who lost his kingdom and whose prayers to God to restore the kingdom to him without bloodshed have received the reply that the kingdom can only be restored with bloodshed. At the same time this sadhu prophesies the downfall of the Razu in November next. He has been communicating with the Andhra Patrika, Telugu newspaper, regarding the fituri. He calls ~~himselfa~~ himself a

disciple....

disciple of Sadhu Ramachandra of Peddapur and is further reported to have addressed some foolish communications in the year 1922 to the Tahsildar of Peddapur and the Collector of Godavari. I am asking the District Superintendent of Police, Godavari to have special enquiries made about both these sadhus and if Sadhu Yarda Subbarayudu is lecturing in favour of the Razu will address the Agency Commissioner to issue orders for his removal from the Agency. It is not yet quite clear, however, whether this sadhu is for or against the Razu. He appears to be for the Razu but does not explicitly say so.(Part V. Page 266)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 18th June 1923 by C.E. Sweney Officer Commanding Agency operation)

Razu wore a turban, a long shirt and knickers, all made of red-coloured KHADDAR, He had stockings and boots also. He has a flowing beard. There was a new recruit of a Kshatriya under him who was a tall, thin man with black complexion. He was fully clad in red KHADDAR. (Part V. Page 269)

[Report from Deputy Tahsildar d/ 13th June 1923]

He was speaking always in Telugu. He spoke highly of his exploits. He gave expression to strong disloyal sentiments. He spoke highly of Mr. Gandhi but considers that violence is necessary. He will continue his campaign till SWARAJ is established. He has no faith in the Government. He has been punishing all those who helped Government by giving news about him. He referred to the sixth attack on him and described how he escaped from bullets. He hints he is bullet-proof. He came to Malkanagiri hoping to meet reserve forces and to give battle but was disappointed. He believes in astronomy and ~~he~~ selects auspicious momemts when he should come to the front. He will again go back to Darakonda side and will fight the forces on (13th June 1923) an/ auspicious day for him. Failing he will hide himself for 15 days. He desires to visit Rajahmundry and other plains villages to test if he could get sufficient following to make a bold stand against ~~officials are of th-~~ Government forces. He hopes to get help from the Punjab.(Part V. Page 270)

(Report from the deputy Tahsildar dated/ 13th June 1923)

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The mother and brother of Alluri Sriramarazu are said to be still at Kovvada village, Kistna district, and under the surveillance of the police. Rumours are rather persistent here, however that the mother of Alluri Sriramarazu has died and that he has gone to Kovvada in connexion with the funeral ceremonies. The District Superintendent of Kistna is being addressed about this.(Part VI.Page298)

(Report on the disturbance dated 7th September 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

In his statement this rebel goes on to say that the Razu has instructed his followers to kill all Europeans whom they may encounter, but not to kill armed Indians if they can get their arms away from them without recourse to violence.(Part VI. Page 321)

(Report on the disturbance dated/10th November 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

The latest information (quite uncorroborated) about the Raju is that he is a member of some Calcutta Secret Society which is engaged in the manufacure of bombs, etc., and that having come under the notice of the Police, he returned to his native haunts, and the non-co-operation movement being in full swing at the time he, with the help of non-co-operation friends, decided that to stir up the Agency villagers would be a good move as regards embarrassing Government.(Part VI. Page 351)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/3rd Februray 1924 by C.E.Sweney)

I find that very little is known locally about the real history of the Razu. We shall want to know this before we have done with him. I think it would be a good thing if the Criminal Investigation Department could put a man on specially to trace his origin and his previous history and his doings for the last few years. (Part II Page 156)

(Note by Mr. Knapp on his return to Madras after a visit to Narsapatam on 22nd November)

I have received a letter from the District Superintendent of Police, Godavari, stating that one of his intelligence constables....

constable states that another Razu has joined the rebels. This new man appeared to be on equal terms with the old Razu and even gave orders to Gam Mallayya. The District Superintendent of Police, Godavari, is having enquiries made about him.(Part IV. Page 247).

(Report on Rebellion dated 9th May 1923 by W.R. John)

The Razu has undoubtedly come to some understanding with muttadars and village headmen about the sending of reports of his movements, and it is even rumoured that the Razu himself dictates them. (Part V. Page 267)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 19th June 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

The statement of the munsif or headman of Ebulu is to the effect that the newly joined Razu, the Gam brothers and some 25 others came to his village at 6 a.m. and ordered him to pay Rs.600 in cash which amount they alleged he had received as a reward for the capture of four rebels. They thrashed him and his son severely and searched his house from which they stole Rs,90 in cash, 8 fowls and a cloth. They then dragged him and his son to the forest and continued the thrashing. Gam Malludora cut off his ear saying that the 'Pedda Razu' had ordered them to kill him and his son but for this time he would spare them. The new Razu explained to the munsif that they would not allow anyone to give information to the police on pain of death and that they were about to start on a campaign which was to include attacks on the police at Gudem, Chintapalli and Peddavalasa to get arms and ammunition, after which they would attack Narsapatam and proceed to Vizagapatam and Ganjam and establish an independent Agency kingdom.(Part V. Page 268)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 23rd June 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

I enclose a copy of a report from the Deputy Tahsildar of Malkanagiri. It proves beyond doubt that there is a second Razu with a gang. This has been reported before but I think this is the first time that his presence has been definitely ascertained. The collections of punitive tax up to date amount to Rs.3,571-2-0. Collection is satisfactory except in the muttah villages of the Gudem taluk. Here the people are undoubtedly under the influence of the gang. Steps will be taken to attach the property of the recalcitrants
(Part V.Page 269) (Letter from J.R. Huggins, Agency Commissioner dated/ 23rd June1923)

The report is to the effect that the recently joined Razu (i.e., Chinchilada China Krishnamma Razu, mokhasadar of Kantaram), the Gam brothers and about 30 rebels with 13 or 14 guns entered Koyyur at 8 p.m. 24th June 1923 and posted sentries round the village. (Part V. Page 270)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 26th June 1923).

It has now been ascertained that 'Aggi Razu' in the rebel gang is a Kshatriya by caste, age 25 years, 5 feet 5 inches in height. He is a native of Lingarazupuram in Vizagapatam district. Some ten years ago he went and settled at Kumadavilly village of Bhimavaram taluk, Kistna district. His real name is Vegerazu Narayanarazu. He left Kumadavilly village about four months ago. (Part VI. Page 298)

(Report on the Disturbance dated 7th September ~~ ~~ 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

SELECTED EXTRACTS FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF RAMPA DISTURBANCES.

A taluk constable who was sent out for information fell into the hands of the gang recently was beaten and sent away after a lecture by Raju who stated that he was not making war against the police subordinates but against the doras. (Part I. Page 8)

(Letter from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner, to the Chief Secretary to Government of Madras dated 22nd September 1922)

On 26th October 1922 Sub-Inspector Abdul Rahman Khan of the Nellore district was surprised by the rebels while on intelligence duty at Mampa and the next day Sub-Inspector Srinivasa Rao of Vizagapatam district at Balru. Both Sub-Inspectors were taken before the Razu and questioned about the strength of the police forces, particularly the Malabar Special Force, Wireless. etc. They were not beaten and were released after being warned by the Razu that they would be killed if he caught them again. The Razu talked to them in his usual bombastic way and boasted of his victory over Mr. Saunders' Company near Ramavaram. There can be no doubt that the villagers betrayed both the Sub-Inspectors to the rebels and necessary action will be taken against the village munsifs in due course. I do not believe that the Razu has any intention of murdering unarmed Indian officers or constables but I have warned all Intelligence officers to be very careful in future when they are making inquiries anywhere in the vicinity of the rebels. (Part II. Page 154)

(Demi-official from A.J. Happell dated 8th November 1922)

Hume in the Kommika valley captured two fituridars who said that Raju and his men were in the forests in that valley with men on top of the hills watching the police movements. These two men were bearing a letter from Raju to his brother at Tuni. They were caught on the 13th afternoon. No further news has come in. According to these men Raju's instructions to his men are to avoid the police, but to fight when they cannot help it. (Part I. Page 40)

(Demi-official from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner, Vizag d/15th September 1922)

The absence of violence, other than the looting of arms and ammunition, which Saunders reports, points to my way of thinking to something other than mere organized dacoity. Ramaraju is SAID to have been in with the Godavari non-co-operators but there is nothing so far to connect this rising with that movement.
(Part I. Page 20)

(Demi-official from C.A. Handerson dated 25th August 1922)

A miserable looking youth named Reddi Pantulu said to be a non-co-operator was caught at Makavaram and was sent in to me this morning. He comes from a village near Anakapalle and says he was persuaded by one Sitarama Anjaneyulu, a non-co-operator of Kasimkota to go up to the Agency with him and pay his respects to the Fituri Raju. He is obviously lying and I can get nothing out of him but I have sent off a Sub-Inspector to try and catch Anjaneylu who, it is rumoured, is wanted by the Rajahmundry Police under section 124-A.
(Part II. Page 63)

(Report on the Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/12th October 1922)

An extract from a report No.345, dated/11th October 1922, from an officer of this department, is submitted.

An officer yesterday interviewed Rai Jagapathi Varma Raju of Pithapuram, Godavari district, a non-co-operator and a KHADDAR propagandist, who frequents K. Nageswara Rao, editor of the ANDHRAPATRIKA, a Telugu extremist daily, and T. Prakasam.

He stated that several influential estate-owners and others living in and around the Agency were expected to help the present fituri rebellion for political reasons; but Alluri Srirama Raju, the leader of the rebels, precipitated matters by bringing it about before the materials for a general republican movement in the country was ready. He is said to have come here to consult Nageswara Rao and others about the introduction of KHADDAR among the womenfolk in the Agency through women propagandists. (Part II. Page 142)

(An extract from a report No.345 dated/11th October 1922)

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The absence of violence, other than the looting of arms and ammunition, which Saunders reports, points to my way of thinking to something other than mere organized dacoity. Ramaraju is SAID to have been in with the Godavari non-co-operators but there is nothing so far to connect this rising with that movement. (Part I. Page 20)

(Demi-official from C.A. Handerson dated/25th August 1922)

Even he is puzzled by our complete ignorance of the motive and objective of the gang. Non-violence, he tells me, is not unknown at the beginning of a fituri. He knows these hills and their politics very well, and most of the bad men. Rama Raju is the unknown factor. Through him is the connexion (if any) with non-co-operation. But, if there is any truth in the story, his scheme for a kingdom in the hills of which he should be the Raja, and a 4-anna poll-tax, and so forth point to the sort of quasi-religious megalomania which actuated the Pachipenta fituri.(Part I. Page 29)

(Demi-official from C.A. Handerson, D.M. of Vizag dated/3rd September 1922)

The only news of the rebels is that the story that the village munsif of Sikayapalem had been beaten and sent to inform the police was a deliberate plot by Raju to attract the Krishnadevipet garrison into another ambush in the hills above Serabhannapalem. (Part II. Page 54)

(Letter from F.W. Stewart dated/4th October 1922)

The following report has been received from Chintapalli. The village munsif of Ebulu came into the post at 9-30 p.m. on 7th October 1922 and reported that the Raju and his whole gang visited his village at about 11 a.m. Two of the rebels were dressed in complete constable's kits and were sent on ahead of the main body as spies. (Part II. Page 61)

(Report on the Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/10th October 1922)

I visited Krishnadevipet yesterday morning and while I was there two station constables who had been sent to

Chintapalli..

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Chintapalli with tappal came in and reported that while they were returning from Chintapalli on 2nd October 1922 they were captured by 14 members of the gang at Rampolu at the top of the ghat. The gang tied them up, beat them, took away the tappals they were carrying and told them to go back to Krishnadevipet and warn the other constables that they would be murdered if they attempted to carry tappal to Chintapalli again.(Part II. Page 53)

(Report on the A.R.(Agency Rebellion dated 24th October by A.J.Happell, Officer Commanding Agency operations).

He was then taken to a ghat between Sapavathipalem and Pedavalasa and produced before the Raju. The Raju was sitting on a cumbly with the gang all round him numbering 70 or 80 and had an automatic pistol by his side (evidently poor Scott Coward's). After questioning the sub-inspector and warning him that he would be killed if he spied on him again the Raju talked in the most bombastic manner saying that he did not care if the Government sent lakhs of troops against him; he had followers all over India and was quite prepared to deal with any forces sent by Government. The sub-inspector was made to prostrate himself before him and after being further questioned about the movements of Inspector Padhi, whom the Raju said he would kill, was set at liberty. The missing Bellary constable was with the gang and has been forced to show the rebels how to use the captured .303 rifles. He is carefully guarded and has been unable to escape. (Part II. Page 58)

(Report on the Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/7th October 1922)

On the 3rd October 1922 a Sub-Inspector of Police who was visiting villages and obtaining information from the villagers was captured by ten men of the Raju's band at Kodasingi. He was taken in front of the Raju's who was then with about eighty of his band at the top of a hill at the DD of Peddavalsa. The Sub-Inspector was subsequently released and made his way back to Narsapatam on the 7th October 1922) (Part II. Page 64)

(Letter from the General Officer Commanding dated/12th October 1922

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The rebels intercepted and released two sub-inspectors on the forenoon of the 26th at Mampa and on the forenoon of the 27th at Balru. No violence was done to these two officers though the first lost some of his belongings and the second was told that the next sub-inspector they met with will be killed.(Part II. Page 86)

(Report on rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/29th October 1922)

Mr. Saunders reports that he was unable to attack the rebels at Chintalapudi yesterday as he intended owing to the rapidity of their movements.(PartII. Page 89)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 1st November 1922 by A.J. Happell)

They captured two intelligence constables from Rajavommangi and two from Krishnadevipet on the Chintalapudi Ghaut but released them--(Part II. Page 89)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 1st November 1922 by A.J. Happell)

On 3rd November 1922 the rebels moved to Markaram and captured Inspector Nityananda Patnaik there. The Inspector's statement has just been received and is of considerable interest. He was surprised by about ten members of the gang headed by the Gam brothers while halting in the village of Markaram with his cook. The rebels tied him up, beat him with the butts of their rifles and then took him to the village of Garnugulu, about 3 miles from Markaram, and placed him before the Razu. The Razu was sitting on a cot clothed in kakhi shorts and shirt and armed with a .303. The other .303 rifles were on another cot close to him on the veranda of a house. He had about 300 arrows and several bows on the cot on which he was sitting. The Razu first abused and threatened him saying that he was the Inspector who had booked many innocent village munsifs and warned him that he would be killed if he was caught again. He then had the Inspector's person and kit searched, but only found a letter from Mr. Forbes to Mr. Keene which he read and returned. The Inspector's cook had cleverly hidden his notebook and it was not found. The Razu then inquired about the strength of the Krishnadevipet, Serabhannapalem and Koyyur posts and asked the name of the officer at Serabhannapalem.

He.....

He also inquired about the strength of the Malabar force and boasted that he had killed ten of them in the action near Ramavaram. He showed the Inspector the arrows and said he would make a 'rain of arrows' and attack the men in the trenches (posts?). After a final warning the Inspector was released and returned to Krishnadevipet. He does not seem to have been much hurt. (Part II. Page 94)

(Report on the Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/5th November 1922

On 26th October 1922 Sub-Inspector Abdul Rahman Khan of the Nellore district was surprised by the rebels while on intelligence duty at Mampa and the next Sub-Inspector Srinivasa Rao of Vizagapatam district at Balru. Both Sub-Inspectors were taken before the Razu and questioned about the strength of the police forces, particularly the Malabar Special Force, Wireless.etc. They were not beaten and were released after being warned by the Razu that they would be killed if he caught them again. The Razu talked to them in his usual bombastic way and boasted of his victory over Mr. Saunders' Company near Ramavaram. There can be no doubt that the villagers betrayed both the Sub-Inspectors to the rebels and necessary action will be taken against the village munsifs in due course. I do not believe that the Razu has any intention of murdering unarmed Indian officers or constables but I have warned all Intelligence officers to be very careful in future when they are making inquiries anywhere in the vicinity of the rebels.(Part II. Page 153)

(Demi-official from A.J. Happell dated/ 8th November 1922)

When near the village they beat drums, blew horns and fired off rifles. There was then a stampede from the village. It is said tht the fituridars came in with cries of 'Gandhi-ki-Jai' and 'the Emperor is coming.' Money and provisions were taken from three shops but no further looting seems to have occurred.

Chintapalli station had already been looted. The earlier reports however said that the Krishnadevipet station was attacked at noon.

It is said that Rama Raju sent a message to the station to ask whether the police would fight or give up their arms. Thereupon the

police.....

Police fled and abandoned the station. The fituridars accompanied by the Raju went to the station and took the arms and ammunition breaking open those doors which had been locked.

According to the police report, the head constable and three or four constables were present but were kept under restraint by the fituridars. This is doubtless false. The fituridars entered some of the line huts which are in the station compound and took some of the clothing and property of some of the policemen. They also made an attempt to break open the door of the Sub-Inspector's quarters which were occupied by his father and which had been locked. At this just juncture the mother of one of the constables is said to have gone and compalined to the Raju who told his followers to stop looting as the police were then 'our people', signifying, I understand, that he had taken over the government and that the police were now his subordinates. It is a discreditable story and the misconduct of individuals will have to be gone into later on.(Part I. Page 39)

(Demi-official from F. Armitage, Inspector-General of Police dated/ 15th September 1922)

* * *

SELECT EXTRACTS FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL REPORT ON RAMPA DISTURBANCES.

Popular Aid and Support: (section 4)

Scott Coward reports considerable difficulty in obtaining information from villagers in this low country which is where Raju has acquired his influence as a holy man and from which most of his followers are drawn. This reluctance may be partly due to fear of reprisals, which the police are and will be powerless to prevent and partly to a genuine veneration for the Raju. (Part I. Page 35)

(Demi-official from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner, Vizag dated/ 12th September 1922)

Unfortunately the people in the Makaram mutta and in the low villages are extremely reluctant to give information; usually, it would appear, quite the reverse when it is a question of giving supplies to the gang. This of course has delayed the pursuit and facilitated the escape of the gang. (Part I. Page 37)

(Demi-official from C.A. Handerson, D.M. (District Magistrate of Vizagapatam dated 13th September 1922)

It is also said that they intend to celebrate Dasara on the 28th to the 30th, after which they are reported to have boasted that they would fight. It is extraordinarily difficult to get information from the people in the small scattered jungle villag. In addition to their natural inclination to deny knowledge of anything, they are either in sympathy with the rebels or afraid of reprisals if they give information. This game of hide and seek in which the rebels conceal themselves in the jungle during day and move by night, commandeering supplies from a village when necessary, is therefore all in their favour. (Part I. Page 42)

(Demi-official from F. Armitage, Inspector General of Police dated/18th September 1922)

Mr. Sweney returned at 7 a.m. this morning and reported that he could find no trace of the rebels though he went on some miles beyond Samagiri. In fact the villagers not only kne nothing about the gang, but even pretended that they had not heard of the fituri. It is difficult to know what to do with such people.
(Page 125. Part II)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/5th December 1922) by A.J. Happell).

Eight villagers have been convicted and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment for harbouring and giving false information including a sentence of 18 months on the rascal who harboured the rebels in Gudem and then gave Mr. Hume false information. After some of the sentences had been pronounced I addressed the assembled muttadars, village munsifs, and villagers and explained to them at some length the meaning of punitive police. I also made it quite clear to them that this was absolutely their last chance and that unless they bestired themselves and really helped us the punitive measures would be given effect at once. (PartIII. Page 199)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 24th February 1923 by A.J. Happell).

The following is an account of what happened in Sarabannapalem yesterday morning. At about 1 a.m. Gam Gantaya and three others (Gam Mallayya was not there), all armed, entered Sarabannapalem where they sat down to drink. About an hour later they went to sleep in a hut about 100 yards away from the bungalow.

That same morning Mr. Forbes had arranged to send some Malabar Special Police pay up to Peddavalasa and had ordered two escorts, one from Krishnadevipet and the other from Peddavalasa, to start at 4 a.m. and meet in the bungalow at Sarabannapalem. Both were 1 Indian officer and 16 men strong. Theescort from Peddavalasa arrived at Sarabannapalem first and went to the bungalow. At this time rebels were actually in the village sleeping in the hut 100 yards away. In spite of this none of the villagers informed the Police though they all knew, and the jamadar simply waited for the other party, in complete ignorance of the fact that the four rebels were sleeping so near. Meanwhile the other party under Subadar C.K.R. Menon, when about a mile from Sarabannapalem, met a man who told them that the rebels were in the village, so they doubled on only to find that the villagers had secretly warned the rebels who decamped about 10 minutes previously. The first intimation that Jamadar Raghavan had was from C.K.R.Menon though he had been sitting in the same village as the rebels for 15 minutes. Both parties then made a thorough search in the neighbourhood, but it was too late and it was eventually found that the

rebels....

rebels had scattered and taken to the hills. The villagers behaved very badly and I have sent Mr. Razvi out to Krishnadevipet to see who can be prosecuted for harbouring. (Part IV. Page 244)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 29th April 1923 of W.R. John)

The gang has been during the week in the Lower Agency in the neighbourhood of the Saraguddah hills. A party of four including Gam Gantam Dora and Gokiri Yerresu drank at the arrack shop at Sarabannapalem. While they were there an escort arrived from Peddavalasa, but the villagers gave no information and the escort did not know the rebels were there. Another relieving escort from Krishnadevipet obtained information but were just too late to catch the rebels who bolted. The four rebels have since rejoined the main gang. It was most unfortunate that so good an opportunity of catching one of the chief members of the gang was lost owing to the neglect of the villagers to give information. ~~The fact is that the recent exploits of the villagers to give information.~~ The fact is that the recent exploits of the gang in beating those who had captured rebels and gained a reward has frightened the villagers.(Part IV. Page 246)

(Letter from J.R. Huggins, Agency Commissioner ~~to~~ the Chief Secretary dated/4th May 1923)

Kirabu Izaradar and villagers not only made no report of this to anyone but gave police constable 916 of the Intelligence staff Rs.10 to keep his mouth shut. The police constable sent the money with his report to the Intelligence Inspector at Rajavommangi.(Part VI. Page 295)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/4th September 1923 by C.E.SWENEY)

The most extraordinary part of this attack is that all Gudem village participated and most probably men from other villages of the Gudem taluk. Gudem village is now almost deserted and it is believed that the male population has joined the rebels.(Part VI. Page 317)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 27th October 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

The following report has been received from Mr. Underwood at Gudem. It shows how the village munsifs and villagers assist the rebels to build comfortable quarters in out of the way places, supply the rebels with food and refrain from giving information to the Police. Incidentally such individuals as Lakshmiah, ex-schoolmaster of Gudem, act as spies on Police camps and Police movements for the rebels. (Part VII. Page 348)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 9th February 1924 by C.E. Sewney)

The attitude of the villagers is mainly neutral. They knew that the fituri was intended and are supplying it with food as it passes through, perhaps willingly, perhaps under compulsion. In either case they are afraid that they will be punished, by the Government. On the other hand they know that they will have to live with the fituridars in their midst for the remainder of their lives and be subject to reprisals if they assist the Government now. There is, however, I believe, no general grievance which would make them support the fituri wholeheartedly.(Part I. Page 5)

- (Letter from F.W. Stewart I.C.S., Agency Commissioner dated 11th September 1922)

The village munsifs seem to have been pretty active in supplying provisions to the fituridars. This is evident from the following extract taken from the statement by one of the fitudonies captured by the Government "We went to Boddavaram by day break the village munsif supplied a fowl and four kunchams of rice. Thence we came to Sagulupalem where the village munsif supplied four kunchams of rice. We had our meals there and thence came to Chondapalli in the evening where the village munsif Saginavaru supplied four kunchams of rice and we halted there that night. We got up at cock crow time and went to Yerracheruvulu by morning meals time, where the village munsif Palusavaru supplied four kunchams of rice and a goat. We halted there that night. The following morning we went to Sangulu for morning meals, where the village munsif Adapavaru whose name I do not know supplied a goat and six kunchams of rice. We reached Gudem by 2 p.m. At Gudem eight men joined the fituridars and I do not know

their....

their names. We thence went to Siribali from Gudem where we halted for some time and the village munsif Mamidivaru supplied one cock and four kunchams of rice and thence went to Jerli by midday, where Viranna Padalu supplied twenty kunchams of rice and a cock and thence we reached x Killamkota by 8 p.m. where the Raju supplied ten kunchams of rice and a fowl. I cannot say whether his name is Bala Raju or Sanyasi Raju. The following morning he again supplied ten kunchams of rice and thence we reached Gangarazumadgole by midnight in the rain where the Raju supplied (10 measures of rice on the very night. On the following morning he supplied) another ten kunchams of rice. Thence we went to Thadagadda village at 2 p.m. where we cooked and had our meals. The village munsif supplied five kunchams of rice and a cock and thence we came to Onjili Nayudu's village. (Part I. Page 9 and 10)

(Extract from a statement made by Rimala Sanyasi, one of the captured fituridars)

George says that muttadars and village munsifs are backward in giving information and that the best source of information appears to be the relations of local fituridars many of whom are known. There is no news at all of the gang in the Krishnadevipet area. (Part I. Page 45).

(Demi-official from F. Armitage, Inspector General of Police dated/24th September 1922).

Mr. King reports from Chintapalli that the village munsifs of Singanapalli and Damanapalli who harboured the rebels have been arrested and are being charged under sections 176 and 216-A, Indian Penal Code. (Part II. Page 53).

(Report on the Agency Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/4th October 1922)

The Rajavommangi sub-inspector has sent in a detailed report of his capture at Kimiligedda. There can be little doubt that he was betrayed by the village munsif and the villagers of Kimiligedda.

The village munsifs of Amirekula, Kimiligedda and Mantharam and a number of villagers were sitting talking to the gang in the most friendly manner and had supplied them with all the food they required.

The sub-inspector was asked the usual questions about the disposition and strength of our forces and was released after he had signed a statement promising not to take any action against these village munsifs. Necessary action will, of course, be taken against them at once....

once and I have ordered their immediate arrest.(Part II. Page 111)

(Report on the Agency Rebellion dated/6th November 1922 by A.J.Happell)

The question of deporting under an Agency warrant the village munsif of Damanapalli has been considered. The statement of some captured fituridars shows beyond doubt that he gave information to the gang when Mr. Scott Coward was coming and thus enabled the rebels to lay the ambush which led to the death of the two officers. It has been decided, however, that the Act does not apply to the case, as a charge sheet against him for harbouring the rebels by giving them food has already been filed. It has been decided to proceed with this case at once and, if evidence of a more serious offence admissible in a court of law is obtained, to put in a further case against him. (Part II. Page 160)

(Demi-official from J.R. Huggins, Agency Commissioner dated/ XX 8th December 1922)

It is clear from Mr. Sweney's reports that a number of village munsifs are not reporting the arrival of the rebels in their villages and deliberately suppressing information. Mr. Hume also reports that the hills as far as Gurtedu and Valamuru, but not a single report has been sent in. I think we must start a rigorous campaign against these village munsifs at once and have asked the Agency Commissioner to depute a Magistrate to take up the cases. The necessary evidence will be collected in the meantime and in the cases in which it is difficult to obtain, I will ask for Agency warrants against the village munsifs.(Part III. Page XX 186)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/30th January 1923 by A.J. Happell)

The captured rebel G. Lakshmayya is the ex-village munsif of Dokkalur. He severely wounded one of the villagers who tried to arrest him with a knife but was eventually overpowered by the present village munsif and some other villagers.

(Part III. Page 186)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/31 Januray 1923 by A.J. Happell)

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The seven rebels against whom there was no evidence in the waging war case have been convicted under section 143 Indian Penal Code, and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.
Lakshmayya, the ex-village munsif of Dokaleru has also been sentenced to 6 months
I. under section 324, Indian Penal Code, for wounding the villager who attempted to arrest him.(Part III. Page 205)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 4th March 1923 by A.J. Happell)

No village munsif, izaradar, muttadar or villager can complain that he is ignorant of what to do, because propaganda work has been going on for two months now, and the how, where and when to report information dinned into all ears.

Watchmen (chosen by the Village munsifs themselves) have been appointed to practically every village of any size with detailed instructions to run off to the police camps immediately any rebels enter their village. This was not only not done in all the instances noted above, but with the exception of Koyyur the other villages sent in 'daily' reports to the effect that the rebels had NOT visited their villages. As regards Koyyur no report was sent till the rebels had left the village and this report was mostly false.(Part VI. Page 297)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/6th September 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

An interesting statement has been taken from a coolie of Makaram who was with the gang for a few days prior to and after the last expedition of the rebels to Damanur. This coolie describes the march of the rebels to Damanur via Limmagedda where the village munsif visited the rebel camp on a hill and appeared to ~~the~~ be on friendly terms with them; Damanapalle, from which village the villagers voluntarily visited the rebel camp in the fields near the village; Kommangi, where Rs.40were subscribed for the rebels by the villagers;(Part VI. Page 311)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 14th by C.E. Sweney)

On 11th September 1923 the Deputy Tahsildar, Rampa, camped at Krishnadevipet and called in all the village munsifs of the Makaram mutta in connexion with an enquiry against Bastian. All the village munsifs left Krishnadevipet together in the evening....

ning. Near Molagalamitta Gam Mallu Dora confronted them alone and ordered them to pay their respects to the Razu. Presently the latter and the whole rebel band turned up led by the village munsif of Molagalamitta. All the village munsifs prostrated themselves before the Razu, who took them off to the fields near Makaram and held a darbar. Next morning all these village munsifs sent in 'nil reports' to Krishnadevipet about the rebels.(Part VI. Page 312.)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 16th September 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

Still meanwhile, a patrol belonging to Narsapatam left Peddavalasa for Chintalapudi via the Budaradla ghaut and getting information that the rebels were in Guddapalle entered that village about 1½ hours after the rebels had left. The village munsif of Guddapalle took the patrol off to Maravada, saying that the rebels had proceeded in that direction. This was deliberately false as the rebels had left Guddapalle in an opposite direction to Maravada. (Part VI. Page 314)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/22nd October 1923) by C.E. Sweney)

It has ~~been~~ taken a long time to gather in that arrant scoundrel, the village munsif of Damanapalle, who helped the rebels to lay the tragic Moguludoddi ambush, and then watched the Police party march through his village, many of them to their death, without a word of warning. Although prosecuted for this dastardly act he was discharged with sympathy by the court which tried him, but there is some consolation in the fact that he has now received a little punishment for his misdeeds.

There are not wanting indications that ryots are murmuring against their village munsifs for failing to help the Police against the rebels, and it is not so difficult now to obtain straightforward evidence against those village munsifs who are actively assisting the rebels and misleading the Police. In fact in a few instances villagers have actually complained against their village munsifs. This is an encouraging sign and perhaps, too, the convictions of several village munsifs will help to bring them a little more to their senses. (Part VI. Page 315)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/23rd October 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

A party of Rebels about 30 strong and under the leadership of Gam Gantam Dora came to Singavaram Loddi 2 miles north of Golugonda on 1st January 1924 and stayed there until 11th January 1924 under the protection of the village munsif of Golugonda, Batta Veeranna Dora. Gantam Dora also made the village munsif promise to pay him Rs.500 and as an advance of this sum the village munsif borrowed Rs.100 from one Singampally Kannayya of Pata Mullampeta and paid it to Gantam Dora. This Kannayya during the days of the Lagarai disturbances organized a band of dacoits from amongst the Vojulas (Kammaras or blacksmiths) of Anantasagaram. This gang, posing as the Lagarai gang and led by Kannayya's son Sanyasi committed a dacoity in Gudempalem in 1916, and I remember this affair. Most of the members of this Vojula gang were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment while Kannayya and his son Sanyasi were bound over for two years under section 110, Criminal Procedure Code.

On 3rd January 1924 this Kannayya sent two bags of rice covered with straw in a cart to Polaram Padu, a deserted village near Singavaram Loddi. This cart was driven by a Mala servant of Kannayya. Two villagers of Kottamullampeta carried the bags of rice to the rebels' camp. The village munsif of Golugonda and Kannayya were in the rebel camp at the time of this transaction. At noon on 4th January 1924 a further meeting took place at Polaram Padu between Gantam Dora, the village munsif of Golugonda, Kannayya and others. (Part Page 346)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 2nd February 1924 by C.E. Sweney)

Pending arrival Malabar Police no offensive will be undertaken, but interval will be used in putting civil pressure on muttadars and villagers to prevent their rendering assistance to rebels. Stewart will issue warning proclamation. Have authorized him to offer rewards for apprehsion of three leaders. Muttadar of Makavaram has been arrested for harbouring gang. Have wired Revenue Secretary directing that, unless technical difficulty appears, order should issue forfeiting mutta which is held on condition of service and of arresting and surrendering any offenders. All action proposed has approval of Armitage and other officers present. (Part I. Page 15)

(Telegram from the Honourable Mr.A.R. Knapp dated Narsapatam 30th Setpember 1922)

It is understood that the muttadar of Makaram in the Hill Golugonda taluk of the Rampa Agency subdivision has been harbouring a gang of fituridars. This is a breach of the terms of clause I (d) of the sanad under which he holds the mutta (Appendix I to G.O.No.3081, Revenue, dated 28th August 1918). As immediate action is necessary, the Government direct the Agency Commissioner to resume possession of the mutta at once under the terms of clause II of the sanad and to send a report of the facts for final orders.(Part I. Page18

(G.O.Ms.No.1765 Revenue dated/2nd October 1922)

The Makaram muttadar has been helping them and the village munsifs of the mutta have been withholding information.(Part I. Page 34)

(Demi-official from F. Armitage, Inspector General of Police dated/ 11th September 1922)

(the captured rebel) He ~~recently~~ refers also to a local Razu of Kilankota supplying the Razu with rations and Rs.400 when the rebels were returning from Paderu recently.(Part VI. Page 321)

There seems to be little doubt that the numbers of the rebels have increased considerably.

(One of the rebels named Pentadu from a village near Yelleswaram was captured in the Krishnadevipet bazaar on 4th November 1922 and has given a most interesting statement.

(He says he escaped from the gang at Markaram, but it is much more probable that he was sent in to Krishnadevipet as a spy by the Razu. He gives a detailed story of the rebels' movements for the last month including a description of the ambush and action with Mr.Saunders' party near Ramavaram. When the rebels raided Chodavaram, he states that a head constable, five constables in mufti and one Tahsildar's clerk came out to meet them and prostrated themselves before the Razu. The Tahsildar also came to see the Razu, prostrated himself before him and offered him plantains(Part II. Page 94)

(Report on the Agency Rebellion dated 6th November 1922 by A.J. Happell)

I have prosecuted the gumasta of the Rani of Komika for offences punishable under sections 76-77, Indian Penal Code, in connexion with the withholding of information on the occassion of the visit of the rebels to Komika on 11th August 1923. The case is under trial and has been adjourned to enable the accused to employ pleaders.(Part VI. Page 294)

(Report on 31st August 1923 by Sweney on the Rampa|disturbances).

It is known to you all that in the month, of August this year a man from the plains called Alluri Srirama Razu raised a fituri against the Government with the help of some two hundred men belonging to the above taluks. The fituridars looted three police stations of arms, and ammunition, and declared a war against the Government. Amongst their other actions they fired several times upon the Police and upon one occasion murdered two British officers. The leader of the fituri openly announced that he could easily defeat the Government forces and make himself the Raja of the above taluks. During all this time, with few exceptions, the muttadars, village munsifs, izaradars, village magistrates, land-owners and villagers in these taluks gave no assistance to the police. Not only did they give no assistance but many of the muttadars, village munsifs, izardars, land-owners and ryots combined together to give supplies to the fituridars to carry their samans to withhold information of the fituridars' movements and to help them to find secure hiding places in the mountain. Consequently the following action was taken against those helping the gang. The Makaram mutta was resumed and the muttadar has been imprisoned for helping the fituridars. The village munsif of Chintampadu has been convicted for helping the fituridars and failing to give the information he was bound to give. Some other muttadars have been suspended and the muttadar of Gangaraz Madgole and the village munsif of Damanapalli are being prosecuted for giving help to the fituridars.

On 6th December 1922, the fituridars were twice defeated by the police and 13 fituridars were killed, and several wounded and captured . This shows that Srirama Razu was telling you lies when he said that he could always defeat the Government force and that no bullet would ever

injure....

injure a fituridar. However very many rebels have escaped from the police with arms and ammunition and still no information of their whereabouts is forthcoming and the inhabitants of the above taluks are still helping them. Unless and until all these fituridars are handed over to the police, it is not possible for the police to leave the country.

In order that the fituridars shall be quickly caught, Government are offering the following rewards:-

(1)	For the apprehension of Alluri Srirama Razu..		1,500
(2)	For the arrest	of Gam Ganthan Dora of Gannarlapalem	1,000
(3)	Do	of Gam Mallaya Dora of Gannarlapalem	1,000
(4)	Do.	of any one who has been actively concerned in the fituri or for information which leads to the arrest of anyone who has been actively concerned in the fituri.	50
(5)	For a .303 rifle or a police musket..		50

If, in spite of the offer of these rewards, the inhabitants of these parts fail to do their duty and the fituridars are still not handed over to custody, or if those concerned still refuse to give information immediately of the movements and whereabouts of the rebels, all concerned are warned that strong measures will have to be taken. For instance all the inhabitants of the above taluks can be compelled to pay the full cost of keeping the Special Police, mules, elephants, etc., in the country until the fituridars are handed over to custody or until information is given to the police to enable the police to capture the fituridars. Further action may also be taken to resume muttas from the muttadars concerned and to remove village munsifs by Agency, warrants and to arrest and prosecute munsifs, land-owners and others under section 44 and 45 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for failing to give information of the movements and whereabouts of the rebels to the Police.

A list of some of the fituridars is attached to this/proclamation and every muttadar, village munsif and izaradar is warned that he should at once report the names of any of his villagers who joined the fituridars for any period. (Part III Page 69)

J.R. HUGGINS,
Agency Commissioner.

(Proclamation issued by the Agency Commissioner)

SELECTED EXTRACTS FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL REPORT ON RAMPA DISTURBANCES.

HISTORY OF THE REBELLIONS. (Section 5)

(From 24th August to 5th October 1922)

Hitherto, for want of authentic details, the Government have not issued any communication about the disturbance which has occured in the Rampa Agency. It is necessary however to correct the statement published on the 31st August by the Indian News Agency, which may otherwise be regarded as authoritative.

A fituri is the local name for the outbreaks which have occurred from time to time in the Agency and a fituridar is a person who takes part in such an outbreak.

The disturbance is not in the Peddapur taluk of the Godavari District nor in the neighbourhood of Tani, which is a station on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, but in the Gudem hills which, until the formation of the Agency division, were part of the Vizagapatam Agency. A gang estimated at about 300 strong succeeded in surprising the Chintapalli police station on the 22nd, the Krishnadevipet police station on the 23rd and the Rajavommangi police station on the 24th. From each of these police stations they removed all the arms and ammunition, but so far as is known there has been no other form of looting. The gang is believed now to be in the neighbourhood of Gudem and parties of armed reserve police from the surrounding districts are closing in on it, but have been much hampered by the difficult nature of the country and the heavy rain which has been falling. (Part I. Page 2)

(Press Communique dated/1st September 1922 by R.A. Graham, Chief Secretary.)

The Government have had little or no information as to the course of events connected with the rising in the Gudem Hills. They have not heard any details of how the fituridars succeeded in abstracting arms from the police stations, of what their object was or what they said or did to the police ~~stations, of w~~ or to the people of the villages which they visited. Nor have they been told of the plan of action decided on by the Agency and police officers. (Part I. Page 2)

(G.O.No.721 Public dated/6th September 1922)

Three Assistant Superintendents of Police and more police arriving to-day. King advancing towards Lammasingi; Keene, Scott Coward searching jungles near Golugonda, hitherto unsuccessfully. (Part I. Page 3) (Telegram from the District Magistrate Vizagapatam d/Narsapatam 11th September 1922).

The absence of more extensive reliable information is mainly due to the fact that actual contact with the gang has only been made once--in circumstances which have been fully reported by me--and has been the most serious difficulty with which the officers on the spot have had to contend.(Part I. Page 4)

(Letter from C.A. Handerson, I.C.S. District Magistrate Vizagapatam to the Chief Secretary to Government dated/Narasapatam 10th September 1922. Town No.3 Fituri)

The result is that his army is probably only 80 strong now. To accomplish his main object of setting up an independent kingdom he must expect to bring the Government forces to battle there is now little possibility of his obtaining any more arms by looting isolated stations or more recruits by showing his flag in various parts of the country, so he must now either fight or run in the hope of carrying on a guerilla warfare from the hills with his reduced following. (Part I. Page 4)

(Letter from F.W. Stewart I.C.S. Agency Commissioner dated/11th September 1922)

The efforts of all officers have been largely diverted to stopping the fituri from increasing its mumbers and to tracking it down, rather than to investigate details of the looting of the three stations.

(Part I. Page 5)
(Letter from F.W. Stewart I.C.S Agency Commissioner dated/11th September 1922).

Information with regard to the outbreak in the Rampa Agency is to the effect that it was organized by one Alluri Sitarama Raju whose object was to set himself up as an independent ruler in the Gudem hills.

On the 3rd September his gang met and repulsed a small force of police near the village of Onjeri, killing one constable, and since then it has been heard of in the neighbourhood of Golugonda and Gantavarikottagudem but the police, of whom various parites, numbering in all over 300, have been engaged in searching for it in the hills and jungles, have not yet been able to come into contact with it. The strength of the gang is now estimated at only 80 and the police force employed is considered ample to deal with it when found and to restore order.(Part I. Page 6) (Press Communique).

35

At Rajavommangi the gang released one Virayya Dora. This man was a local muttadar (petty chief) who was concerned in the Lagarai rising in 1916 and had since been detained as a prisoner under Regulation II of 1819 at Vizianagram, but having escaped had recently been recaptured in that neighbourhood; and it was at first supposed that the object of the rising might be to restore him to his mutta. It appeared however that he was not at all willing to go with the gang; he soon separated from it and has since been recaptured;

(Part I. Page 6) (Letter from R.A. Graham I.C.S. Chief Secretary to Government, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department dated/ 16th September 1922)

The incident alluded to at the end of paragraph 1 above occurred on the 3rd September when Mr. Tremenheere, Sub-divisional Officer, with about 30 police met the gang near a village named Onjeri. He had information that the gang was near him but was apparently taken by surprise when it attacked him; and his force after firing off most or all of its ammunition, without effect, so far as is known, scattered in various directions. One constable was killed, but the rest have all returned to their units without serious traces of injury. (Part I. Page 7)

(Letter from R.A. Graham Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department dated/16th September 1922)

The Government have heard with great regret that a party of police consisting of two officers and 28 men who were searching for the rebels in the Gudem hills were ambushed on the 24th September 1922, with the result that two British Officers--Messrs. Scott Coward and Hayter--and one constable were killed, a head constable and one constable were wounded and one constable is missing. The party had visited the village of Damanapalli of the looting of which on the 23rd a report had reached them, and were on their way back to Serabhannapalem, at the foot of the ghats. The track runs down the side of a steep ravine and is rough and narrow so that the party had to proceed in single file. The rebels were hidden in the jungle above the path and allowed the advance guard of five constables to pass without molestation, but opened fire on the officers, who were at the head of the main body. At the foot of the ghat the remainder of the party....

~~PARTY~~ found Mr. Armitage, Inspector-General of Police, with a small force under Assistant Superintendent of Police Mr. Keene. Mr. Armitage attempted to go up the hill to fetch in the wounded men, but was fired on from the jungle and desisted from the attempt after losing one constable killed. The wounded and the bodies of those killed were brought in later by villagers.

Mr. Scott Coward was an officer of exceptional ability and special knowledge of the Agency and had been very active in chasing the rebels. Mr. Hayter was a temporary Assistant Superintendent of Police enlisted originally for service in Malabar and showed much promise. He joined the army at the beginning of the war and had seen active service in Aden in 1914, the North-West Frontier in 1916 and 1917 and in the Afghan War in 1919. The loss of these two officers is deeply deplored. Arrangements have now been made for reinforcing the police already concentrated in the Agency by the addition of a considerable number of special police from Malabar. The training and experience which the latter have obtained during the past year in the suppression of the Mappilla rebellion should render them specially fitted for the difficult jungle fighting entailed in operation in the Agency. The whole force has been placed under the command of Mr. A.J. Happell, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Madras, who has considerable experience of the Agency.

Rewards have been offered for the apprehension of the leader of the fituri Alluri Sitarama Raju and his two principal lieutenants, and action is being taken to enforce upon the local muttadars the obligation to assist the authorities in the maintenance of order which is one of the conditions on which they hold their estates. (Page 18. Part I.)

~~(The Government have heard with Great~~
(Press Communique dated 3rd October 1922 by the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.)

Armed Police reserves, numbering in all about 450 men, under European officers were promptly despatched from the neighbouring districts to deal with the rebels by the Government of Madras.

These operations are being controlled by the Inspector-General of police with headquarters at Narasapatam.

The Government of Madras understood that the process of quelling the rebellion was proceeding in a satisfactory manner; but withing the last few days the police have been ambushed in the jungle on more than one occasion and have lost some officers and men.

On the ~~25 the~~ 25th September 1922 the District Magistrate of Vizagapatam 'called out' 30 men of the East Coast Battalion who were directed to proceed to Narasapatam.

On the 25th September 1922 the Madras Government forwarded a request by the Inspector-General of Police for military assistance specifying an Indian army unit trained in jungle fighting.

As a result of a conference with His Excellency the Governor of Madras and the Honourable Mr. Knapp at Ootacamund on the 26th September 1922, I decided that it was undesirable to despatch troops untill the exceedingly meagre information at my disposal could be supplemented. I have accordingly instructed my General Staff Officer III, who happened to be in Madras obtaining information on the subject, to proceed to Narasapatam in company with a senior police officer deputed by Government to furnish a report and appreciation of the situation.

Pending the receipt of this report, I do not propose to despatch troops to the scence of the rebellion, unless the situation suddenly becomes acute, as I consider the 450 police on the spot should be capable of holding the rebels in check until a concerted plan of operations can be devised to deal with them. (Part I. Page 14)

(Letter from Major-General J. Ponsoney, General Officer Commanding Madras District to Head Quarters Southern command Poona dated/ Wellington 27th September 1922)

Nothing of note has taken place between the rebels and the police since the ambush at Damanapalli ghat on the 24th. Yesterday, the Inspector-General of Police, the General Staff Officer....

Officer and myself completed final proposals for the introduction of Martial Law on the lines given in my daily report of yesterday and the General Staff Officer is reporting to the General Officer Commanding, Madras District, on this subject in detail. Yesterday evening I issued the proclamation mentioned in paragraph 4 of my letter of yesterday and enclose a copy of it for the information of Government.(Part I. Page 16)

(Letter from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner incharge to the Chief Secretary to Government dated/30th September 1922)

The situation is not clear because no definite contact has been established at any point with the gang; and their objective is still absolutely a matter of conjecture. Even what part Virayya Dora is playing we do not know.(Part I. Page 29)

(Demi-official from C.A. Henderson, District Magistrate, Vizagapatnam. dated/3rd September 1922)

It was probably the same at the other stations. We shall probably never get a true account of the facts from any of the police concerned. We may possibly from the Raju when he is caught. (Part I. Page 39)

(Deservation of R.A. Graham, Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras on 16th September 1922)

It is clear that the rebels are too dangerous to be dealt with by police and that soldiers experienced in jungle warfare are required. I much regret that I did not realize this sooner and issue orders which would have prevented any party exposing itself to such danger and thereby have prevented the loss of these two valuable lives.(Part I. Page 47)

(Demi-official F. Armitage, Inspector General of Police dated/ 26th September 1922)

For the present we shall act on the defensive holding certain posts in sufficient strength to avoid attack and trying to keep in touch by spies with the gang's movements. Our future sphere of operations will depend upon the military requirements. We shall organize intelligence for them. I propose to call in Mr.Sweney, District Superintendent of Police, Ganjam, who hunted the Lagarai gang....

gang in this country, as one of the Intelligence officers. It is essential that Martial Law should be proclaimed throughout the necessary area and I understand that Stewart will address you on the subject. (Part I. Page 47)

(Demi-official from F. Armitage, Inspector General of Police dated/ 26th September 1922)

I hope the Government has applied for a bush-fighting regiment. I need not describe the country to you. It is merely very hilly and covered with jungle and forest. Few, if any, of the police are trained to fight in jungle, and there is no possibility of training them under three months. In any case the disciplinary powers of their officers and lack of Indian officers would prevent their ever becoming much use at such work. Their rifle, the Martini Henry, is most unsuited for the jungle. It has no magazine and no safety catch, so that the men must go with it UNLOADED. To cope with a surprise, they have this weapon which has first to be loaded, and re-loaded every time the man fires. At the same time he is supposed to be looking for the enemy, and keeping cool under the surprise. Only the Bellary Force have the .303 magazine rifle. Moreover working in single file only two or three rifles at a time can be brought to bear on any place at which the ambushers may show themselves unless they all come out together on a flank, which is most unlikely.

We have known these weaknesses for some time, but they were not necessarily fatal against a mob of hillmen. The Raju has a brain however and the ambush at Damanapalli has made it clear that the police are both ill-trained and badly armed to deal with him. (Part I. Page 48)

(Demi-official from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner dated/26th August 1922)

It is a matter of great regret to all Police officers that the police efforts to destroy the gang have so far failed. Officers and men have worked most strenuously and the leading by the British officers has been splendid.

The men however are not competent or trained to attack the rebels when concealed in the jungle and our organization does not provide for the Indian commissioned and non-commissioned officers which ~~from~~ form part

of....

of the organization of an Indian battalion. This has proved itself to be a most serious defect. We have nothing but head constables between the British officer and men except in a few cases where an Inspector or a Sergeant can be employed and we have no reserve of head constables or men trained to take the place of casualties.(Part I. Page 50)

(Demi-official from F. Amitage, Inspector General of Police dated/28th September 1922)

Authority given to the Agency Commissioner to offer rewards up to Rs.1,000 each for the apprehension of Alluri Sri Rama Raju and his two principal lieutenants (Page 52. Part I.)

Orders issued in G.O.798 Public, 3rd October 1922

(Order issued in G.O.798 Public 3rd October 1922).

<u>(From 6th October to 11th December 1922)</u>

(a) The fituridars or rebels are still at large and are believed to be in the hills east of Gudem. Their moral is high, but so far few additional recruits have joined the band.

They now have--

Six .303" magazine rifles with 300 rounds S.A.A.
Twenty-six bored out Martini-Henri police rifles with 2,500 rounds.
Ten to fifteen muzzle loaders.

Some of the rebles are also armed with bows and arrows which are formidable weapons at close range and are used to kill tigers with in normal times.(Part II. Page 55)

(Letter from the Officer Commanding dated/4th October 1922)

Two companies special auxiliary Police are en route from Malabar and a third company will be used if necessary. (Part II. Page 55)

(Letter from the Officer Commanding dated/ 4th October 1922)

The officer in charge of Chintapalli reports that on 29th and 30th September 1922 thirteen of the fituridars looted the villages of Turamamidi and Lakkavarapupeta between Gudem and Pedavalasa. (Part II. Page 57)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/5th October 1922 by A.J. Happell)

On 3rd October 1922 at 6 p.m. about 20 members of the gang under Gam Gantayya looted the house of the village ~~munsif of Rampolu who~~...

village munsif of Rampolu who has also been assisting the police.(Part II Page 57)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/5th October 1922 by A.J. Happell)

Very good news has just been received from Chintapalli. The schoolmaster of Gudem with the assistance of the muttadar captured four of the rebels at Gudem on 4th October 1922. These men were not active members of the gang but were forced by the gang to go with them and carry their saman.(Part II. Page 58)

(Report on the Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/7th October 1922)

The Raju has selected his camp with great cunning on the top of an almost inaccessible hill at the head of the Pedavalasa ghats. Sentries are posted and every precaution taken against surprise. (Part II. Page 59)

(Report on the Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/7th October 1922)

The Rampa fituridars are in greater strength, organized and armed with over thirty modern firearms, for which they have about seventy rounds each. Any signalling posts which we establish must be strong enough to defend themselves against the fituridars and this means that signalling must be done from the strong posts from which natural conditions prevent visual signalling. Telephone communications would probably be cut; so, wireless appears to be the only possible means left. The provision of this may be difficult and expensive, but there is every reason to suppose that it would shorten the operations very considerably, and consequently would lessen the cost in the long run.(Part II. Page 61)

(Letter from F.W. Stewart, Agency Commissioner dated/9th October 1922)

Further information has just been received from Chintapalli which amplifies my report of yesterday. At 5 a.m. on 6th October 1922 the main gang under the Raju visited Sarabavaram and obtained supplies from the village munsif and villagers. The gang then divided up into two parties under the Raju and Gam Ganthayya. The Raju went to Devarapalle (between Gudem and Chintapalli) and looted the village for provisions. Gam Ganthayya's party went to the village of Kodasingi and after looting it joined the Raju at Devarapalle. At 3p.m. the.....

the Raju sent two villagers in to Mr. Chadwick with the impudent message that the rebels were cooking their midday meal at Devarapalle and that he had only sent out twenty men to ambush him!(Part II. Page 62)

(Report on the Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/ 11th October 1922)

Yesterday evening the following wire was received from the Taluk Magistrate, Yellavaram: "Addatigala looted last night (i.e., 15th/16th) ten to two--Police deserted--no ammunition lost-treasury safeguarded--wooden opium box and bhoshanam in taluk office broken--nothing lost--two taluk clerks arrested--rescued--rebels proceeding Ghodavaram."(Part II. Page 69)

(Letter from F.N. Stewart dated/ 17th October 1922)

This news is not so alarming as at first appears. It merely means that the rebels got food in Addatigala bazaar, and we have lost some prestige.(Part II. Page 69)

(Letter from F.W. ~~XXXXX~~ Stewart dated/17th October 1922)

I would like to say that I consider it quite useless marching after the gang unless we have them more or less cornered and want to drive them in a certain direction. They can always outmarch us and we will only be wearing our men out to no purpose. Tired and fever-striken men are much more likely to fall into an ambush and, if they do, will not put up anything of a fight. In fact, we must try and play the rebels at their own game.(Part II. Page 71)

(Report on Rebellion dated 18th October 1922 by A.J. Happell)

A copy of a report from the Acting Inspector of Rajahmundry has been sent by the Deputy Superintendent. It contains what was learnt from the forest ranger on special duty at ampa Chodavaram, and was to the effect that about 60 fituridars came o Chodavaram at 4 p.m. on the 19th went to the Tahsildar's office, nd the leader Srirama Raju sent for the Tahsildar with whom he talked bout political matters. "The Raju said that the fituri would continue r two years more and there would be blood-~~bllo~~shed." The Raju expressed e regret that Indians were with the Europeans as he wanted to shoot, e Raju entered the village after posting sentries all round and then nt to the station but apparently took away nothing. He then occupied e rest-house and about 5-30 p.m. started back for Bundapalli some four five miles....

four or five miles distant on the way to Addatigala.

The ranger's saman was seized by the rebels but released at the Raju's orders. (Part II. Page 77)

(Report on Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/23rd October 1922)

Since the 3rd October when the last communique on the subject of the disturbance in the Agency was issued the police, including the reinforcements from Malabar, have been chiefly engaged in training for the work they had to do and in establishing posts from which to operate against the rebel gang. Before the preparations were complete however, Sitarama Raju and his men left the neighbourhood of Gudem; on the 13th they were heard of at Gurtedu and on the 15th they looted the village of Addatigala which is the headquarters of the Deputy Tahsildar, Yellavaram. An Inspector of Police was stationed at this place with a small force, of whom only ten men remained staunch and when the gang, 90 strong, arrived in the village on the night of the 15th, the Inspector wisely decided not to attack them, but hid in the neighbourhood till the gang left, which they did in the early hours of the 16th on hearing that reinforcements were on their way. The District Magistrate, Godavari, arrived with reinforcements later in the morning and found that the police had reoccupied their post. All valuables had previously been removed from the Deputy Tahsildar's office and though the gang were able to seize some food in the village they got nothing else. According to the latest news, after looting one or two other villages, they moved in the direction of Chodavaram about the 18th. Parties of police are in pursuit of the gang. The weather has been unfavourable and has hampered the work of the force. (Page 78) Part II)

(Communique dated/ 25th October 1922 by Chief Secretary)

It is by now quite evident that the Razu's intelligence department is most efficient. He gets news of the movements of our farce immediately they leave a place and most of the information we receive is actually sent in by him in order to mislead us; messengers are stopped and searched and all our messages have now to be written in code or French. His military dispositions are

also....

also most effective and preclude any chance of surprise. His favourite position is just below a ghat with a strong party holding the ghat in ambush; his camps are always carefully picketed even when situated in the most inaccessible places, and all his positions are carefully chosen with an eye to an easy means of retreat if he is attacked. It is therefore obvious that it would be folly to attack him with only one striking force. Valuable lives would be lost and the rebels would certainly get away with another alleged victory over the police. Our only chance of success is to operate with at least two forces, preferably three, and first cut off the rebels' line of retreat before attacking them.

All this combined with the unexpectedly extended range of the rebels' operations make it quite clear that the campaign is going to be much more difficult than I anticipated and I have come to the conclusion that my present striking forces (the Malabaris) are inadequate. The reserves up here are quite useless except in posts and I should very much like to have another company of the Malabar special police if they can possibly be spared. I am afraid that with the limited forces at our disposal the Razu will have no difficulty in giving us the slip and there is always the fear that he will get right away into Jeypore or the Upper Godavari Agency where it will be extremely difficult to follow him.(Part II. Page 79)

(Report on Rebellion dated/ 24th October 1922 by A.J. Happell)

From information received it appears that the gang never rest in one party. They always put out one or two ambushes on the tracks from which they may expect to be attacked. They also send out patrols to collect food and information.(Part II. Page 84)

(Report on Rebellion dated/25th October 1922 by A.J. Happell)

As indicated in the press communique issued on 26th October the rebels moved from Addatigala in the direction of Chodavaram on the 18th. A party of police had arrived at Chodavaram on the evening of the 18th but, being unable to get any news of the rebels there, left on the morning of the 19th to cover the approaches....

approaches to the Bhadrachalam taluk. The same evening the rebels, who obviously had accurate information of the movements of the police, entered the village. Srirama Razu had an interview with the Deputy Tahsildar, but the rebels did no damage and left the village the same evening without taking anything with them. The band afterwards moved back in the direction of Gudem. On the 23rd a party of the Malabar Police under Mr. Saunders was fired on near Ramavaram and one of the Malabar constables was slightly wounded. Though they could not see their assailants the Malabar Police showed great steadiness and good discipline. They returned the fire as well as they could, but it is not likely that any casualties were caused.

The heavy rain and sickness continue to hamper the operations of the police. Mr. Sweney, District Superintendent of Police, was taken seriously ill on the 22nd and had to be taken to the Mission hospital at Pittapuram where he is reported to be making satisfactory progress. Mr. Wilkes, District Superintendent of Police, has been sent to the Agency to take his place and the Government considering the question of sending further reinforcements to deal with the situation(Part II. Page 86)

(Press Communique dated/30th October 1922 by the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras).

About 9 p.m. a villager came in with the information that the rebels were at Davaram; a few miles off, and were taking supplies there. On being cross-examined, he admitted that he had been sent in by the Razu who had carefully prepared a moonlight ambush! He was sent back to tell the Razu that an attack would be made that night and Mr. Saunders and his party then went quietly to bed.

(Part II. Page 88)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/31 October 1922 by A.J. Happell).

Mr. Saunders reports that he was unable to attack the rebels at Chintalapudi yesterday as he intended owing to the rapidity of their movements. (Part II. Page 89)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/1st November 1922 by A.J. Happell)

The band are reported to have a good intelligence system. They get news of the police movements at once, and....

and also spread false information about their own movements in order to mislead the police.

Several police messengers have been intercepted by members of the band. After the messages have been read the messengers are allowed to proceed. ~~Messengers~~ Messages are now being sent in code or in French.

The gang are reported to have had no casualties during the engagement with Mr. Saunder's column on the 23rd of October 1922.

Their object is reported to be to obtain more arms and ammunition and to kill white men. (Part II. Page 92)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/26th October 1922)

The Madras Government have decided that the strength of the movable columns must be increased in order to be able to cope with the rebel band when they gain contact with them. They have accordingly decided to send two further companies of special police from Malabar to the Agency. (Part II. Page 92)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/26th October 1922)

It does not appear as though these operations will be concluded at an early date.

The gang have apparently concluded that their ~~xxx~~ best course is to remain in the hills where everything is to their advantage.

It is impossible for the police to establish sufficient posts to render effective support to all the villages, and the gang can move about and by overawing villagers obtain all the food they require.

The Malabar Special Police cannot apparently live on the country and combined with the disadvantage of not being nearly such good marchers in the hills as the rebels are, they have the additional disadvantage of having to be accompanied by or closely followed by transport. (Part II. Page 92)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/26th October 1922)

There seems to be little doubt that the numbers of the rebels have increased considerably. (Part II. Page 94)

(Report on the Rebellion dated 6th November by A.J. Happell)

The Government have noticed a newspaper statement suggesting that the reason why little news about the Agency disturbances is reaching the public is that "the police are being engaged somewhere invariably and beaten back" and also that "the rebels are increasing and the trouble is spreading to other parts of the Agency." There is no foundation for these statements.

Since the last communique was issued at the end of October there has been no further actual contact with the rebels. They have however returned, as was anticipated, to the Gudem area and there is evidence to show that they too have been suffering from the effects of their hard marching and the feverish climate. At one time the band had certainly increased in numbers, but the most recent information goes to show that a certain number have lately deserted the Razu and have returned to their homes. Several men who are or have been members of the gang have been captured and among other interesting and apparently reliable information obtained is news that in the ambush referred to in the last press communique near Ramavaram, in which a sepoy of the Malabar Special Police was slightly wounded, three of the rebels were killed and one seriously wounded. A fresh contingent of the Malabar police has arrived at Narasapatam and an additional wireless set is expected shortly. With these reinforcements it is hoped, that offensive action against the rebels will be possible. The weather has continued to be most unfavourable and there is still a good deal of fever among the police forces. (Part II. Page 101)

(Press Communique dated/13th November 1922 by Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras)

Mr. Sweney thinks ~~that the looting~~ that the looting of Rampol and Chaparathipalem by a small party of the rebels reported on the 17th was merely a blind and was done in order to attract attention while the Razu and the main gang slipped off via the Budarala ghaut. I think this is very probable but still cannot understand how the rebels managed to get so far down without being spotted unless of course they did two rapid marches by night. The Razu's latest plan is extremely cunning and makes it very difficult to obtain reliable information. The main gang avoid all villages and the

small....

small foraging parties sent out talk freely to the village and give them deliberately misleading information which is the in due course passed on to our intelligence.(Part II. Page 110)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/20th November 1922)

It is reported that, from various sources of information there is no doubt X that the moral of the gang is now bad and that the majority of them are sick with fever.(Part II. Page 114)

(Report on the Rebellion dt. 23rd Novbr. 1922)

At Jogampet a village drama was being performed at which the Revenue Inspector was present. The rebels surrounded the pandal, prevented anyone from coming out, and them looted the village. The Razu came into the pandal and had a talk with the Revenue Inspector. He told him he had cut down some of the telephone wire at Kottamallampet and would cut down some more at Golugonda. The Revenue Inspector says he asked the Razu what he hoped to accomplish by raising this fituri and the Razu replied that every one would know in four month's time.(Part II. Page 122)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/2nd December 1922 by A.J. Happell)

Up to the time of writing I have been unable to get any definite news of the rebel's movements.(Part II. Page 124)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/4th December 1922 by A.J. Happell)

The Government have noticed a suggestion in the Press that the public are not being given sufficient information about the progress of the fituri in the Agency. They can assure the public that no news of importance is being withheld from them and the only reason why no communique has been issued lately is that there has been very little of interest to report.

About the middle of November Mr. Happell made arrangements to surround and surprise the rebel camp which was situated in an almost inaccessible position at a place called Ganukonda, some miles north of Serabhannapalem. At the last moment the rebels moved their camp, which was found deserted, and a few days later a number of them made their appearance in several villages XX outside the Agency border in the

Godavari....

Godavari district. They helped themselves to supplies where necessary, but appear to have done no material damage. They were pursued by detachments of the police, but moved rapidly and mostly by night and the police were unable to come up with them or obtain correct information as to their movements in time to cut them off. They succeded, however, in capturing one or two members of the gang. After creating this diversion the rebels made once more for the hills. They seized supplies in several villages near Golugonda on November 30th but returned immediately to the Dhar hills.

The latest information is that on the morning of the 6th December a party of some fifty police under Messrs. John and Charsley surprised the rebels, in the village of Peddageddapalem and after a running fight during which the Malabar Police had to advance a mile under heavy fire, killed four of the rebels captured two and wounded several more, recovering some arms and ammunition and capturing much of the rebels' equipment including the Razu's personal baggage. The gang scattered and was being pursued. As the result of further pursuit by party under Mr. Sweney another engagement took place on the evening of the same day. Full details have not yet been received but it is known that several of the rebels were killed and a large quantity of arms and ammunition recovered, including two .303 rifles which had been taken by the rebels in one of the earlier ambushes. One Malabar Force constable was severely wounded. In spite of the bad weather and continual marching the health of the police force engaged is better than was expected and their behaviour continues to be excellent. (Part II. Page 126)

(Rress Communique dated/7th December 1922 by the Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.)

Since the issue of the last Communique the following further details have been received of Mr. Sweney's engagement with the rebels on the night of the 6th December.

Messrs. Sweney and Keene with Sergeant Goodsell, three Indian officers and fifty men engaged the rebels at-midnight in a rocky water course in the hills five miles from the scene of Mr. John's action. The rebel sentry posts were rushed and the main camp entered. A desperate fight among....

among the boulders ensued, lasting for one hour. The rebels lost eight killed, several wounded and four captured. Sriramarazu escaped but is believed to have been wounded. Nine police muskets two .303 rifles, 748 rounds musket and 162 rounds .303 ammunition, 17 bayonets 6 police swords, several country guns, Razu's bed and kit, Mr.Scott-Coward's automatic pistol and large quantities of miscellaneous property were recovered. On the side of the Police Jamadar Kesavan Nayar was seriously wounded in stomach and one sepoy slightly wounded. MrX Mr. Sweney reports all ranks behaved magnificently.(Part II. Page 128)

(Press Communique dated/8th December 1922 by the Chief Secretary)

There is already a marked change in the attitude of the villagers and I do not think we shall have much difficulty in getting information in future. The Razu and what is left XX of his 'gunmen' must visit villages to obtain food and clothes and we shall get information as soon as they do. Mr. Sweney's or Mr. John's special parties will then go right after them until they run them down.

The two actions have utterly demoralized the rebels and must have ruined the Razu's prestige. The rebels have lost nearly all their ammunition, all except about 15 of their effective weapons, the whole of their supplies, clothes, and cooking utensils and the final reckoning can only be a question of time. Once the Razu and the Gam brothers are caught, the rebellion will be over. The rest of the fituridars will probably make for their homes and can easily be rounded up. (Part II. Page 129)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/8th December 1922 by A.J. Happell)

I consider that the present Special Malabar force is quite insufficient to catch the rebels in a reasonable time except by an accident. As stated the Raju's information is good, his military dispositions unexpectedly good. It is almost impossible to surprise him and he can outmarch any force that starts in pursuit easily. Both Sweney and I arrived at these conclusions independently.

Another point is that the ordinary reserve police are almost useless My experience of the last three days convinces me that even in a post like Addatigala, many, if not most, would throw down their arms and bolt into the jungle at the first serious attack. Fortunately the rebels

are....

are almost equally afraid to attack. My experience of the attitude of the men on an alarm occuring (it turned out to be false) was not encouraging. Most of them seemed more or less ~~petrified~~ petrified with fright: one man could not even load his weapon. Their discipline is thoroughly bad and their moral equally so. In offensive operations they are useless from a military point of view. At most, if sufficiently strong, they can defend a post. Sweney entirely agrees with this. It seems to me and Sweney that there is no hope of catching the rebels quickly unless there are four or five movable columns of at least 50 men operating at the same time in the same area. The rebels have so many 'bolt holes' that one or two columns acting at a distance from one another as at present have little chance.(Part II. Page 144)

(Demi-official from G.T. Bracken, District Magistrate, Godavari dated/19th October 1922)

The situation up here must remain anxious The rebel leader grows in prestige and the non-co-operators without doubt sympathize. Looting Addatigala and Chodavaram have told on our prestige.(Part II. Page 149)

(Demi-official from G.T. Bracken, District Magistrate, Godavari)

* * * * * *

(From 12th December to 1st April 1923)

About 80 village munsifs and villagers who had been sent out to scour the country from the Saraguddah hills to Gudem came in to Krishnadevipet yesterday and reported ~~tht~~ that they could get no news of the fugitives. The complete absence of information is extraordinary. No doubt the rebels are hiding in the jungle and are not entering the villages but even then we should have received some information.(Part III. Page 165)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/19th December 1922 by A.J. Happell)

The Razu and Gam Ganthan Dora are very depressed and Gam Mallayya is now the real leader of the gang. Mallayya was shot through the right forarm and two other rebels (names mentioned) were wounded in the shoulder. Mallayya's wound has almost healed but the others are still bad. The Razu and the Gam brothers have been making every effort to obtain fresh recruits but the villagers have all flatly refused to join. A number of the rebels now with the gang want to desert but are afraid of Mallayya who keeps a close watch over them. The Razu admits that the fituri has failed and says that it is fate. The rebels have only one .303 rifle, nine police muskets, No. 303 and only a limited supply of police ammunition. (Part III. Page 187)

(Report on the Rebellion by A.J. Happell dated/1st February) 1923.

I forgot to mention another interesting statement of the captured rebels.

They say that the Razu is very depressed and told the Gam brothers that it was useless going ~~XX~~ on with the fituri as it was impossible to obtain any more arms and ammunition. The Razu wished to go away to Nepal but the Gam brothers refused to allow him to do so saying that they were prepared to fight to the last and that he must stay with them. (Part III. Page 198)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/21st February 1923 by A.J. Happell)

For some time the Government have issued no information regarding the progress of the fituri in the Agency. The reason is that there has unfortunately been little or nothing to report.

After.....

After the engagements in which the rebels suffered so severely at the beginning of December, the gang split up and for some time no trace of them could be found. Individual members were apparently hiding in different parts of the country and it was realized that, as had been the case in previous outbreaks of this kind, it would take some time before they could all be rounded up. Such steps as were possible were however taken. The reward for the apprehension of Srirama Razu was raised to Rs.1,500. (~~Rewards of Rs.1,000 were offered for the capture of his two however taken. The reward for the apprehension of Srirama Razu was raised to Rs.1,500. Rewards of Rs~~) Rewards of Rs.1000 were offered for the production of rifle or police musket. The Agency Commissioner also issued a proclamation at the end of December warning the population generally and muttadars and village munsifs in particular of their responsibility in the matter of giving information and co-operating with the Government in effecting the arrest of the rebels. In spite of this, however, it has been a matter of the greatest difficulty to secure correct information as to the movements of the gang. At the beginning of January it was thought that the rebels had formed into two separate parties, one under the Razu and the other under the Gam brothers. Subsequent information, however, showed that this information was incorrect or at any rate that the whole gang had reunited by the end of January. Several plans were drawn up by the Officer Commanding Operations to search the country in which the rebels were reported to be hiding. Energetic action was taken to put these plans into execution, but, although a few individual captures have been made from time to time, the efforts of the police have not met with as much success as was hoped. However, on ~~the~~ the 16th February Mr. Happell was able to report that Mr. Sweney had carried out a most difficult night operation with considerable success ending in the capture of four of the rebels. It has now become clear that some definite action must be taken to bring home their responsibilities to the people of the locality and the Government are considering the question of quartering police detachments in the locality and recovering the cost of them from the villagers under section 15 of the Police Act. Sanction has been given to prosecute a number of village munsifs for

failing.....

failing to report the passage of the fituridars through their villages and it is hoped that this will have some effect. The Government have also sanctioned the prosecution of a number of the rebels who have already been captured for waging war against the King.

The health and spirits of the police forces have on the whole remained excellent in spite of the disappointments which they had to undergo.(Part III. Page 200).

(Press Communique dated/ 26th February 1923 by the Chief Secretary).

I had a long discussion on the 28th morning with the Agency Commissioner regarding the present situation, the punitive police measures, the case of waging war, and the distribution of the Maharaja of Jeypore's very generous gift of Rs.25,000. I would like to offer my views on the present situation and to submit the following proposals for Government's consideration. The present position is briefly this:-

All the rebels from the villages below ghats have deserted the Razu and there does not appear to be the least likelihood of their rejoining him. With two or three exceptions, they are all unarmed and they can easily be arrested by the villagers. The only armed gang now at large numbers about 25 and consists almost entirely of rebels from the Gudem and Peddavalasa muttas. They cannot have ~~been~~ more than a dozen police carbines and probably have only nine or ten as at least two are known to be with the rebels below the ghats, and according to the last four prisoners, they have only a little over 200 rounds of ammunition.

It is true that the gang includes the leaders of the rebellion, the Razu, and his three lieutenants, the Gam brothers, and Yendu Padal; but even the Razu has lost most of his influence over the people, and from recent information received it seems probable that he will leave the country if he has not done so already.

Yendu Padal has some local influence in Peddavalasa, but the Gam brothers command little or no influence above ghats, and are merely feared and hated. There is not the slightest fear of the gang obtaining fresh recruits and it is quite impossible for them to procure any more arms and ammunition. In....

In fact the gang now corresponds almost exactly both in numbers and arms to the Lagarai gang and the rebellion as a rebellion cannot be said to exist. The question therefore arises whether the large forces now in the field and the consequent enormous expense of maintaining them are justified by the present conditions. Personally I think they are not and the Agency Commissioner entirely agrees with me. Ever since the actions on December 6th, the gang have moved about in the most inaccessible part of the country, the hills between Peddavalasa, Gudem, Dharakonda, Gurthedu, and Mattam Bhimavaram. In such ~~places~~ country it is possible for a small gang to conceal their movements and hiding places from the villagers and without the active co-operation of the people and prompt and accurate information even double the number of troops would be helpless. In fact, unless we have a stroke of luck, the game of hide and seek may go on indefinitely.

Since the conviction of 8 village munsifs and 10 villagers in the Gudem taluk, and the thorough patrolling of all the villages the attitude of the people has greatly improved but their co-operation is still very half-~~harted~~ hearted and falls short of the active assistance which is absolutely essential if the rebels areto be rounded up. Above ghats the villages are small and isolated and there may be some excuse for the villagers, but below ghats there can be no possible excuse for their failure to co-operate an it is dis~~charged~~ graceful that the 30 unarmed rebels who are still at large and who are known to be hiding near their villages have not yet been arrested and brought in. The muttadars, village munsifs and villagers can bring in all the unarmed rebels and can give information which will lead to the capture of the armed gang in a few weeks if they combine and make a real effort, but I think that the only way to make them realize their responsibilities and force them to render us active assitance is to quarter punitive police on them and make them pay for their up-keep until all the rebels are arrested. As regards the strength of the punitive force and its location, I beg to submit the following proposals:--

I think the force should be 300 strong and should consist of 100 non-commissioned officers, and men of the Koraput reserve and 200

Indian....

Indian officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the new East Coast Battalion which I believe has been sanctioned by the Government. Not more than 30 of the present Bellary Special Force are fit to be retained, but I am certain that a number of good men from the Northern Reserves would be willing to transfer to the new force as the prospects of promotion will be far better than in the ordinary ~~to the new force as the prospects of promotion will be far better than in the ordinary~~ reserves, and the remaining vacancies can easily be filled by re-cruiting ex-sepoys. It will obviously take some time to raise the new force and in the meantime I would suggest that two companies of the Malabar Special Police should be temporarily retained as a puni-tive force.(Part III. Page 203)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/2nd March by A.J. Happell)

Everything possible has now been done to round up the rebels with the forces at our disposal but we are no nearer the end than we were nearly three months ago and there is no reason to suppose that we will be any nearer three months hence, un-less , as I said, we have a stroke of luck.

I am convinced that operations on the present scale are both un-justified and useless, and I would strongly urge that punitive measures be adopted and brought into force as soon as possible.(Part III. Page 204

(Report on the Rebellion dated/2nd March by A.J. Happell)

The Government have decided that the time has come to review the position as it exists in the Rampa Agency and to settle the further steps necessary to bring to an end the operations which have been in progress there since October last. The offensive power of the rebels was decisively broken in the engagements with the police at the beginning of December 1922. Since that ~~the~~ date the efforts of the police and of the military units employed in the Agency have been directed to the arrest of the remaining members of the gang and especially the leader Alluri Srirama Razu and his lieutenants Gam Gantayya Dora, Gam Mallayya Dora and Yendu Padal. These efforts have proved unsuccessful partly owing to the difficult nature of the country but largely also to the failure of the local inhabitants to co-operate

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with the police. The rebels would certainly not have been able to remain at large if the inhabitants had refused to supply them with food and had exerted themselves to keep the pollice informed as to their movements. After consultation with the Officer Commanding, ~~XXX~~ Agency Operations, the Agency Commissioner and the Inspector-General of Police the Government have come to the conclusion that the continuance of the operations on the present scale against the remaining members of the gang can no longer be justified and that the proper course to be adopted now is to put pressure on the villages frequented by the rebels in order to secure their arrest. This will be done under section 15 of the Police, Act, 1861.

The Officer Commanding, Agency Operations, has therefore been directed to despatch to their stations in Malabar two companies of the Malabar Special Police and to release the wireless sets and personnel supplied by the Military authorities. He will also now release all the military transport which has been placed at his disposal, including the ambulance supplied under the orders of the General Officer Commanding, Madras District, and pending the submission of detailed proposals reduce the medical and clerical staff as much as possible. (Part III. Page 215)

(G.O.No.231 Public dated/ 24th March 1923)

It will thus be seen that the intention of the Government is to retain in the Agency force roughly 300 strong whose duty it will be to take such action as may be necessary to effect the arrest of the remainder of the rebels. All this force will be in addition to the ordinary fixed complement for the area, but it will of course be impossible to recover the entire cost from the inhabitants of a poor and thinly peopled tract like that which has been the scene of the fituri. It is, however, necessary to make them realise their responsibilities and the Agency Commissioner is requested to report what proportion of the cost he can reasonably expect to collect month by month. (Part III. Page 215)

(G.O.No.231 Public dated/24th March 1923)

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(From 1st April 1923 to June 1st 1923)

Yesterday at about 10 am. I received a telegram from the Annavaram police station, Godavari district, stating that the Razu with a party of rebels had arrived in Annavaram at 6 a.m. that morning and were staying in the police station. (Part IV. Page 241)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/18th April 1923 by W.R. John, Acting ~~of~~ District Superintendent of Police)

The attention of the District Magistrate Godavari, is drawn to a report in the Hindu of 19th April 1923 (copy enclosed) regarding the movements of Alluri Srirama Razu. He is requested to state whether the facts mentioned therein are true and why, if the Razu had only four followers with him, the Police made no attempt to arrest him.

It appears to the Government that, if the behaviour of the inhabitants is correctly represented, there is a strong case for imposing punitive police on the area. If the District Magistrate agrees, he should submit detailed proposals without delay. (Part IV. Page 242)

(Official Memorandum No 31/Q-1 dated/ 21st April 1923 by R.A. Graham Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras)

After a visit with ~~XXXX~~ about 50 followers to Kotandrug and its neighbourhood on 7th instant Mr. Alluri Sitarama Razu arrived at Annavaram with four followers at 6-30 in the morning of the 17th instant. He stayed there about three hours, searched the police station for over half an hour and tried in vain for carbines and guns as they had already been removed from the station. ~~He syat stayed there about three hours, searched the police station for over half an hour and tried in vain for carbines and guns as they had alread been removed from the station.~~ He stayed in the choultry about two ~~X~~ hours. Big crowds of people gathered to see him. The rebels left Annavaram before 10 o'clock. The Cocanada and Peddapur Deputy Magistrates and Police officers were there before noon. Inquiries are being made as to what happened there. (Part IV. Page 251)

(Correspondent's report on the Rebel's exploit in the "Hindu" dated/19th April 1923)

It was, of course, possible for the station staff to make an attempt to arrest the Razu, but to expect it to have been made, is, I think, expecting too much of an acting sub-inspector and police constables under the circumstances. Reports differ as to whether there were four or five rebels with the Razu, but all are agreed that all rebels present were armed with muskets (Gam Mallayya had a .303); the police had no weapons at all; the village was solid for the Razu and the acting sub-inspector got no sympathy whatever in reply to his requests for aid (it is open to question whether he really did try to raise the village against the Razu; I should think he probably did not try very hard, seeing what the attitude of the villagers was). Further the talk in the village at the time was that the rest of the gang were waiting just outside the village. This has since been proved incorrect--the gang were not within two miles--but on all previous visits to villages by the Razu, the bulk of the gang has always been left on guard round the village; so I do not blame the acting sub-inspector for believing the rumour.

The reports of Inspector and of acting sub-inspector are attached for perusal and favour of return; the Inspector's reports of evidence against villagers are retained for use in the case under section 216 against villagers.

As regards the newspaper reports. These are, mostly, grossly exaggerated but are founded on truth. The acting sub-inspector's entry in G.D. (seen by Mr. Peterson) appears to be the true story. As regards the interview it really took place, but whether the spoken words were those given in the papers cannot be discovered. It is reported that the whole conversation was in English. The interviewer accounts very reasonably for his presence in the villge; he married a girl of the village some nine months ago and had come there for a ceremony--all of which is proved true. No amount of enquiry has yet elicited the Razu's real reason for going to Annavaram; he knew well enough that there were no arms there. My own theory is that he came there for two reasons--(1) to be interviewed and (2) to make arrangements for a triumphal entry into Annavaram at the time of festival, 27th April to 1st May, this latter being knocked on the head by the arrival of a

Malayali....

Malayali force at Tuni on the 26th which passed through Annavaram and camped at Kattipudi on the 27th.

To sum up: I see no necessity for taking any disciplinary action against the station staff. A report is being made to Government for extending the punitive tax to Annavaram and Sankavaram villages. Those villagers who harboured the Razu or his men will be prosecuted under section 216, I.P.C.(Part IV. Page 253)

(Letter from the District Superintendent of Police to the Inspector of Police dated 29th April 1923 sent to the Government).

The Razu's prestige has gone up enormously since the Annavaram incident, but this would be nothing to the effect of a visit to Tuni. Mr. Dawson therefore has ordered Inspector Eveling, four head constables and forty men from Rajahmundry to Tuni, not with the object of being a striking force but primarily to guard the place and the railway line. (Part IV. Page 243)

(Report on Rebellion dated/27th April 1923 by W.R. John, Acting District Superintendent of Police)

I am convinced that the Razu's influence over the people below ghats is as great now as it has ever been. Some are undoubtedly willing to give information but are frightened of the rebels.(Part IV. Page 245)

(Report on Rebellion dated/29th April 1923 by W.R. John)

Accounts which have recently appeared in certain newspapers regarding the visit of Srirama Razu to the Annavaram Police station may have given the impression that efforts to account for the remaining members of the gang have been relaxed since the reduction recently ordered in the strength of the Police forces engaged in the Agency. It is true that the withdrawal of two out of the four companies of the Malabar Special Police and the Wireless seems to have encouraged the rebels to a certain extent; some who deserted the gang several months ago have rejoined and the gang has not been so completely in hiding as it was for some time after the engagements in December last. But ever since Mr. John took over command of the operations from Mr. Happell at the beginning of April, three separate parties of Police have....

have been in constant pursuit and on several occasions have all but succeeded in effecting contact with the rebels. Their visit to Annavaram on April 17th was evidently for the purpose of trying to get arms and ammunition of which they have now a very small stock, and in this respect the visit was entirely unsuccessful. The Police forces retained in the Agency are fully competent to deal with the situation.(Part IV. Page 246)

(Press Communique dated 3rd May 1923 by the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras)

Owing to the present activity of the Razu and to his having again collected a band of followers the original proposals are not suitable and I consider should be replaced by the organization of a number of flying columns, which is in reality what is being done at present.(Part IV. Page)

(Owing to the rate of casualties I think that we shall have to get at least 50 more Malayalis, In that case it will be necessary to retain the Pandalur Force in Malabar, the abolition of which from the end of this month I have recommended.(Part IV. Page 255)(Demi-official from F. Armitage, Inspector General of Police to the Chief Secretary, d/9th May, 1923)

* * *

(From 6th June to 31st August 1923)

I hear that generally villagers get previous intimation of the fituridars' intended visit to their village and that they would send away all the females from the village. But it was not so in Koyyur. I saw several females from the 'manduva' in an alarmed state. It appears that the fituridars' visit was not previously known to the villagers. (Part V. Page 263)

(Letter from the Deputy Tahsildar to the Agency Commissioner dated/ 3rd June 1923)

A few remarks are necessary upon the conduct of the gang. They are severely thrashing local inhabitants whom they suspect of helping the police, and are taking away reward money which we have paid out. Villagers are consequently refusing to accept rewards paid down and want them held over. It appears that the Lammasingi muttadar has petitioned to pay the punitive tax as he fears that the gang will consider him a friend of the authorities if he does not pay. (Part XV. Page 264)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/ 13th June 1923 by C.E. Sweney Officer Commanding Agency operation)

All recent reports of the gang place the number of rebels at 100, and I am beginning to think that there is not much exaggeration in this. As to arms it is apparently still quite easy to raise country guns as Mr. Underwood collected 56 in a short space of time after his arrival at Ramavaram. Ammunition would be more difficult unless the Razu is getting it from his non-co-operation friends in the Godavari district. (Part V. Page 277)

(Report on the Rebellion dated/9th July 1923 by C.E. Sweney)

News was received that Srirama Razu of Rampa rebellion fame is again on active move. When the Tahsildar of Gudem (Vizagapatam district) went to Koyyur on punitive tax collection business the rebels headed by Gantam Dora visited the same village for taking the muttadar to task for having handed over one of their men to the police. It is further rumoured that two rebels dressed in Malabar Police uniform with two guns came to the Tahsildar and asked him if he

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was the Tahsildar. When he made the answer in the affirmative, they dragged him beating and took him to the rebel leader. Gantam Dora prevented them from further beating him and treated the Tahsildar kindly. The Tahsildar was asked to tell the rebels regarding the expected move of some police forces of which the Tahsildar had any knowledge. During their stay at Koyyur the rebels posted some of their men around the village to make any leakage of information regarding their presence impossible. After some time the rebels telling the Tahsildar that they had information regarding the approach of a Malabar force and any further stay on their part would be unsafe left the village. They met a sub-inspector and his constable after proceeding a few paces. It is also runoured that the rebels beat these two people and conveyed them to the Tahsildar's abode. The sub-inspector and the taluk officer stayed that night in the muttadar's house and were conveyed to Narsapatam by the next morning. This incident was rumoured to have taken place on 31st May. It is further said that the Government thatched bungalow at Koyyur was burnt down soon after the Tahsildar left the village. Another rumour conveys the news that the rebels set fire to the thatched temporary sheds erected for military operations at Gudem. This incident was said to have taken place at the 8th instant.

Another fresh attack of the rebels is rumoured to have taken place on the 11th when Razu with his men went to Malkanagiri, a place south-west to Jeypore and the headquarters of the Taluk Magistrate. Razu went there at 8 p.m. and at the taluk office demanded the surrender of Government ammunition and arms. After he was told there was none Razu stayed that night in the taluk office. Leaving the place next morning Razu told the Magistrate that he would go to Kondakumberu, a village situated in the Agency where 'Sebari' and 'Sileru', the two tributaries of Godavari, meet. Another rumour goes that some of the rebels proceeded in the direction of Nowrangapur taluk, a border taluk bounded on north by Kalahandi State of Bihar and Orissa Province and on the west by Bastar State of Central Provinces and on the east by the Jepore estate of Vizagapatam district. (Part V. Page 290)

Extract from "Swarajya" dated/15th June 1923--quoted in the Notes on the Rampa disturbance Part V).

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There is little progress to report. It now appears almost certain*that there are two leaders of the name of Razu with the rebels. Sections of the gang have made their appearance at various places from time to time and in one village cruelly ill-treated a village officer who had rendered assistance to the Government. Considerable progress has, however, been made with the collection of the punitive tax and it is hoped that, under a new intelligence system that has recently been started, the police will be able to get more timely information of the movements of the rebels and effect WXXXX contact with them before very long.

* Does not seem to be altogether accurate. All that we know is that another person of the same caste as Messrs. Venkatapati Razu and Narasimha Razu--members, respectively, of the Legislative Assembly and the local Legislative Council--has joined Srirama Razu.(Part V. Page 292)

(Extract from fortnightly report for second half of June quoted by the Chief Secretary in the notes on the Rampa disturbance.)

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 65

(From 1st September to 31st December 1923)

For several months there has been little news of importance to report from the Agency. The police, however, have been far from idle. The whole area has been divided up between a number of armed police posts, in addition to which striking forces are kept ready to proceed at a moment's notice on receipt of reliable information as to the whereabouts of the gang. A new system of Intelligence has also been organized and is being put into practice. The rebels, though their gang has regained its former cohesion, have persistently refused to take the offensive and, while constantly moving from place to place in the area which of course renders the task of their pursuers all the more difficult, have made it their main object to remain in hiding. Om more than one occasion parties of police by means of most strenuous efforts have almost succeeded in effecting

contact.....

contact with the rebels and on 18th September 1923 the first real success of the new methods occurred in the capture of Gam Mallayya Dora, the Razu's chief lieutenant and one of the most desperate and dangerous of the fituridars. The chief credit for the capture belongs to Mr. Kearns, Assistant Superintendent of Police, and a party of the Malabar Police and to Inspector Radhakrishna, who is in ~~chrge~~ charge of the Intelligence arrangements in the Krishnadevipet area. Late at night on September 17th, Mr. Kearns received information that Gam Mallayya Dora was in the house of a girl in the village of Nadimpalem. At midnight he set out with his force, reached the village and surrounded the house. A party then entered and after a careful search three constables of the Malabar Special Police with Jamadar Narayana Kurup climbed up into an attic where the rebel was discovered hiding in a large grain basket and secured after a scuffle in which he received slight injuries. He was armed with a heavy knife and an axe and the men naturally took a considerable risk because they did not know what arms he had and in the darkness and confined space anything might have happened. The capture is undoubtedly of the first importance and the whole party is to be congratulated.

Subsequent to this success the rebels moved northwards to a part of the country that they had not visited since the early days of the fituri. A road leads up the Minamalur ghaut through Paderu and Padwa to Jeypore; and on September 20th the rebels were heard of at Gangaraz Madugole making in this direction. On the night of the 22nd they raided the police station at Paderu and were said to have left in the direction of Padwa. Two forces of police from the fituri area were immediately moved in pursuit, the District Superintendent of Police, Vizagapatam, sent some of his reserve up from the plains and a detachment of the Koraput reserve was ordered to proceed to Padwa to meet them from the opposite direction. These movements seem to have effectually turned the rebels back and according to the latest information they returned to the Gudem area and thence proceeded towards Damanapalli where a small party of them was fired on by the police on September 30th, but managed to effect their escape. The object of their move towards Padwa is not clear; but they are not being allowed to rest and are being vigorously harassed by the police, and they are probably

feeling...

feeling the effects of the pressure. There has been a good deal of rain in the area lately and the movements both of the rebels and the police are hampered by floods.

The term for which punitive tax was imposed on the inhabitants to pay for part of the cost of the additional police in the area expired on September 24th and the Government have decided not to re-impose it for the present.(Part VI. Page 308)

(Press Communique dated/ 12th October 1923 by E.S. Lloyd, Acting Chief Secretary)

On the removal of the Malabar police and the military units at the end of March the rebels however began to reassert themselves, and at the beginning of June Mr. Sweney was put in charge and a plan of operations was worked out and sanctioned in G.O.No.295, dated 20th June 1923. The understanding at the time was that the position would be again reviewed at the end of August. In August the Inspector-General visited the Agency and as a result of his report a further extension of the present plan of campaign was sanctioned in G.O.No.534, dated 1st October 1923. Events since then are described in the Press communique at page 14, current file.

Meanwhile the punitive tax which was sanctioned for six months from the end of March 1923 has been discontinued in G.O.No.508, dated 22nd September 1923, after consultation with the local officers.

We appear to be no nearer the end of this business than we were a year ago, unless this latest move on the part of the rebels indicates that they are becoming desperate.

It will be seen by a perusal of the above papers that as much as possible has been done in the way of persuading or compelling the inhabitants to co-operate with the authorities in combating or betraying the Razu and his followers, but these efforts have not really been successful and even the present system by which village munsifs are supposed to send in daily or periodical intelligence reports has not been working satisfactorily.(Part VI. Page 331)

(Note by G.R.F. Tottenham, Acting Chief Secretary on the Rebellion dated/27th October 1923)

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The Government have received a telegraphic report from the Officer Commanding, Agency Operations, to the effect that Intelligence Inspector Upendra Patnaick with twelve other ranks of the Malabar Special Police engaged about 50 of the rebels on the morning of the 6th May. Agai Razu was captured and two rebels were killed. One .303 rifle and eight rounds were recovered. One constable was wounded. The rebels fled in disorder and are being pursued by several police parties. Although their leader Razu escaped, it is believed that he was wounded.(Part VII. Page 335)

(Press Communique ~~and~~ dated/7th May 1924 by N.E. Marjoribanks, Acting Chief Secretary)

Telegraphic reports have already appeared in the Press of the capture and shooting of the rebel leader Alluri Sri Rama Razu. The Government have not received the written report of the Special Commissioner, Agency Operations. It appears therefrom that Intelligence Inspector Upendra Patnaik with a patrol party of the East Coast Special Police got information that the Razu and his gang had been in Kondapalli village for two days. He came in touch with the party on the 6th May. Both sides opened fire and two rebels were killed and Agai Razu, an important rebel, was captured. Others, including the leader Sri Rama Razu escaped. On the morning of the 7th May another patrol party of the Special Police under Jamadar Kunchu Menon captured a man who stated that he was the leader Razu. He was brought in to Major Goodall of the Assam Rifles the same morning. Later in the day, the prisoner seized an opportunity and attempted to run away; he was fired on by the police escort and killed The body after being identified by the Deputy Tahsildar, Gudem, and many village officials, was cremated on the 8th. The most important rebel at large now is Gantam Dora for whose capture every effort is being made.(Part VII. Page 336)

(Press Communique dated/16th May 1924 by N.E. Marjoribanks, Acting Chief Secretary on the Rampa Rebellion)

Starting with the Revallu encounter on the 6th May, 37 rebels have either been killed or captured. It

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was ascertained from rebels captured shortly after the Revallu affair that a considerable portion of the gang had separated under Yendu Padal from the main body and remained above-ghats and others were stated to have been sent off to a meeting place in Gangaraz-Madgole area where the Gantam Dora's wives were kept in hiding and the Razu had a Puja Basa. While the hunt for Gantam Dora and others known to be at Revallu continued, the whole of the Assam Rifles were put into the Gangaraz-Madgole and Killamkota areas north of Chintapalli and Lammasinghi. New intelligence areas were also opened in that direction. Although the Assam Rifles themselves did not come into contact with rebels, their operations caused the rebels to move down below-ghats, presumably to join Gantam Dora as they brought his wives and children with them. They first were heard of at Sallai, south of ~~of them in the forest~~ Chintapalli on 23rd May. A police party sent out from Chintapalli got sight of them in the forest and fired and apparently scattered them for, during the last few days, police parties have come into contact with small parties of them and killed or captured several. Gantam Dora's first wife and daughter were also caught and the second wife who was with another party just managed to escape, one of the rebels with her being killed. With two of the captured rebels was found what was known as the Razu's Puja box, really a leather suit case belonging to Mr. Tremenheere. In it amongst silk cloths and various books on Astrology, Hindi, etc., was found a complete list of rebels with dates of joining and in the case of deserters the date of leaving the gang. Also a leave roster and a list of fines imposed on villages for giving information to the police or handing up rebels. A number of weapons and ammunition have been recovered including a police musket with forty rounds found buried near Karaka which is practically in the plains and quite close to Narsapatam. These and some more clothes belonging to the Razu were found on information given by a captured rebel. On examination some of the rebels have disclosed, how they were in communication with certain persons in the plains for the supply of clothes, and arms. Some of the people informed against when confronted with the rebel's statements....

statements have admitted their meetings with the Razu and negotiations for supplying clothes, etc. The most important event, however, of the period under report is the killing of Yendu Padal by the villagers of Peda Jeruvu near Peddavalasa. They captured and brought in his son on the 23rd and Yendu Padal came to the village on the 26th evening, summoned the munsif and others out to meet XX him on the edge of the forest and attempted to shoot the munsif. He fired both barrels of his double-barrel gun but missed him. The munsif who seems rather to have expected some such summons had taken the precaution to put out a party of his villagers who got in the rear of Yendu Padal and fell upon him, after he fired, with sticks, stones and knives. Gantam Dora with, it is believed, Gokiri Yerresu, Sankoju Mukadu and one or two others remains as elusive as ever. He was traced by Jamadar Kunchu Menon from Kantaram through Mampa to Gangaram on 18th and 19th May and villagers from these villages actually seem to have acted as scouts for the rebels as well as giving supplies. The Jamadar was also misdirected as to the route of the rebels. Mr. Hicks visiting the neighbourhood later found where the rebels had been encamped with freshly cut firewood piled up for them. From that date until the 27th conflicting reports were received which indicated that after continuing to hang about the west of the Koyyur mutta he had struck across the foot-hills of the ghats to try and join the party coming from the north with his wives. Information, as definite as any information can be in this part of the world, was received on the 28th morning that he had actually visited his home village Nadimpalem at 8 o'clock on the 27th night. A police party was two miles away and information was given only twelve hours late. The statements of the recently captured rebels show that the gang has been constantly XXX warned by villagers of the approach of police parties and that not infrequently the gang XX has either X lain up within a couple of one hundred yards of the path or retired to a hill and come back into or close to a village when the police had departed. Every effort is being made to catch Gantam Dora, but without information from the villagers, it is a matter

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of lück if a police party stumbles on him. The number of rebels accounted for between the 23rd and 28th May is fourteen of whom three were killed.(Part VII. Page 336)

(Press Communique dated/5th June 1924 by the Acting Chief Secretary in the Rampa Rebellion)

The Government have received from the Special Commissioner for the Agency Operations a telegram announcing Gantam Dora has been killed. After the death of the rebel leader Sri Rama Razu, Gantam Dora was the most important rebel still at large. In view of the successful issue of the operations of the last four weeks very considerable reductions have been made in the numbers of the police forces employed in the Agency.(Part VII. Page 337)

(Press Communique dated/ 16th June 1924 by the Acting Chief Secretary)

According to the Jamadar's account Gantam Dora was cornered between the three portions of ~~KKK~~ his party and put up a stout fight running about from cover to cover and firing at the police at the same time endeavouring to escape. With him were found 87 rounds of police ammunition and a police musket and a country gun was recovered from the other rebel. Subsequent search of the locality in the direction in which the other rebels had managed to escape brought forth another police musket and 18 rounds of ammunition and a loaded country gun. Two of the rebels who escaped were captured on the 8th and 9th outside their own villages which are a very considerable distance away from the scene of the fight. According to the first rebel captured Gokiri, Yerresu and Bonkula Modigadu, two of the men for whom special rewards are offered, were with Gantam Dora. This man confirms what other rebels have stated that Mattadam Buddayya Dora of Koyyur left the gang on the 4th of May at the sight of the lights of a police party when some of them got scared and has not rejoined them since. (Part VII. Page 337)

(Press Communique dated/16th June 1924 by the Acting Chief Secretary)

Gokiri Yerresu for whom a reward of Rs.500 was offered was captured by villagers outside a village about

three....

three miles from Narasapatam on the 10th and brought in to the Gudem Deputy Tahsildar there. Lotha Lakshmayya of Malamakaram was brought in to Chintalapudi post on the 13th by Malamakaram villagers. Bonkula Modigadu for whom a reward of Rs.500 was offered and Korabu Kottadu of Gangaraz-Madgole mutta were captured by villagers of Kontalam which is in the plains not far from Narasapatam and brought in on the 16th to Narsapatam. Lotha Lakshmayya later showed the place where he hid his .303 rifle and it was recovered. Captured rebels having stated that Sagina Kottanna Padal who is still at large had thrown his rifle away at Sallai on a hill it was recovered after search. Bonkula Modigadu has given information as to where he hid his police musket and five rounds near Singadhara after the fight in which Gantam Dora was killed. Apparently those rebels who still retained arms are getting rid of them as being too incriminating and dangerous to have in their possession. A special party has been sent out to look for Mottadam Buddayya Dora. He and Sankoji Mookadu are the only ones remaining for whom more than the ordinary Rs.50 reward is offered. The total number of rebels still to be captured is 21 and it seems certain that all these are scattered and lying out in hiding; but notwithstanding the numerous parties out information is not yet forthcoming as to where they are.(Part VII. Page 338)

(Press Communique dated/25th June 1924 by the Acting Chief Secretary)

Since the date of last communique 25th June, 1924 only two rebels have been accounted for. One was killed by villagers near Peddavalasa and the other was brought in by Chintapalli police on information. Both were minor members of the gang. The reorganization of posts and disturbance to intelligence patrols consequent on the demobilization of a greater portion of the personnel may be partly responsible for this. The Malabar Special Police were despatched to Malabar on the 26th June and there remain only the East Coast Special Police and a small complement of officers and intelligence staff.(Part VII. Page 338)

(Press Communique dated/9th July 1924 by the Acting Chief Secretary)

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Speeches CASE OF PERJURY AGAINST MR. C.V.S. NARASIMHARAJU, M.L.C.

Mr. C.V.S. Narasimharaju emphatically asserted that the Special Police served no useful purpose so far as the fituri was concerned. The intention of the Government was that this police force was necessary in the matter of putting down rebellions of that nature. The force as constituted was completely useless to achieve the object. They had 20 or 30 officers and 700 police working in the area, but the number of the rebels there never exceeded 100. To put down a rebellion raised by 100 persons as many as seven times the number were employed in spite of which it was admitted that it was not successful even after a two years' operation. That very fact was clear proof that the Special Police would not be of any use at any time. They all waited to see what results the Government would demonstrate through instituting the Special Police. Of course one or two attacks took place in the beginning but he did not think there was ever a case of subsequent attack from the rebels.

Mr.A.R. Knapp:- ~~Maky~~ May I remind the Honourable Member of the recent attack?

Wild goose chase.

Mr. C.V.S. Narasimharaju:- I may take it more as an attack by the police on the rebels (laughter). The people entertained the idea that the police were not able enough to face the rebels and chase them. Some ~~place~~ police officers, and there were many excellent officers, resented the remark, but the fact was that the rebels did go within six miles of the big police camps and yet the police had not the quickness enough to chase the rebels or pursue them and demonstrate to the public that they are doing any active and useful work. After all, some of them were inclined to believe that it was only 'a wild goose chase.'

Influence villagers.

Sir A.R. Knapp, replying said that the Honourable Member had not placed before them any constructive proposals relating to the way in which they should conduct themselves in regard to the fituri. The difficulty was that no information was ever forthcoming from the villagers. If the Honourable Member would use his influence to get all the villages to give the information, it would have been of great use.

Mr. .....

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Mr. C.V.S. Narasimharaju:- I have no influence in the area. I am not interested in furnishing information either to the rebels or to the Government or to the villagers. I am only interested in studying how the Special Police is working.

Sir Arthur Knapp in conclusion desired to say that he would welcome any constructive suggestions. They could not close all the operations altogether and therefore. . .

Mr. C.V.S. Narasimharaju:- Please say to the public that you are using the tax-payer's money in a manner agreeable to them.

Sir A.R. Knapp:- I am presuming that when he supported the idea. .

Mr. Narasimharaju:--Let the Honourable the Home Member remember that I have given a token motion on it.

Sir A.R. Knapp:--He does not suggest that the Special Force in Malabar or in fituri should be abolished in the immediate present. As to the East Coast Reserve, my Honourable Collegue will answer.

A costly failure.

Though the motion for the omission of the allotment of Rs.6,86,500 for 'Special Police' was lost yesterday in the Madras Council, largely thanks to the patriotism of our Ministerialist friends, the discussion made one thing quite clear. Police administration is a costly failure in this Presidency. The speech of Mr. C.V.S. Narasimharaju on the motion is indeed pathetic reading. For over two years all the resources of the Madras Government have not been able to suppress the so-called 'rebellion' of 100 men in the fituri. There are over 700 police working in the area with about 30 officers, and already over thirteen lakhs have been sunk in this undertaking. It is striking proof at once of the inefficiency of the force and the wasteful methods of the administration. When already so many lakhs have been spent and a further indent is now made on the tax-payer's money for keeping on this humiliating show, may one ask what this police force has so far done? Has it made any attempt to follow them into the area and seek an engagement? By merely lying in wait on the outskirts for months together in the hope that at some future date the rebels may walk into their camp, they are only eating their heads off indefinitely at public expense. Mr. Narasimharaju has also pointed out that when once the 'rebels' were actually within six miles of the police camp, this

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this force which has cost us over 13 lakhs, had not the courage to chase them and face an engagement. It is an unconscionable waste to go on spending money on a force which is obviously unable to do its work. (Part VII. Page 390)

(Extract from Swarajya, dated/26th March 1924. Proceedings in Legislative Council. No useful purpose served.)

I have read with great interest the press communique issued by Government regarding the activities of the police in the fituri area.

The incidents referred to in the communique by quoting extracts from the reports of the Commanding Officer relate, I believe, to the happenings previous to October 1923, and probably those events took place in August 1923. I think you will agree with me that it is desirable to furnish the public with information regarding the activities of the police in the rebel area during the subsequent months so far as it can be published consistent with the best interest of the State. You may be pleased to consider this question and publish such information as you deem fit, regarding the activities of the police

*are almost nominal and it is necessary to remove such an impression by giving the public such information which can safely be given.

After the debate in the Council, I was invited by the Inspector-General to see him at his quarters and he read to me some more extracts and discussed the questions at some length. The reports shown to me led me to feel that the police are exerting their best to catch the rebels. But as their activities are mostly confined to remote and inaccessible areas, the public have no means of knowing the attempts of the police in that direction.

In the communique, my reference in the Council debate to the activities of the police and the letter which I addressed to Mr. Sweney about the 7th of January 1924 were referred to. Apparently the letter I wrote to Mr. Sweney was not before the Government. I shall be glad to furnish you with a copy of the same if you so desire; when I met Mr. Sweney on or before 25th December 1923, he requested me to refer any criticism of mine to him before hand. In pursuance of the said request, I did write the letter above referred to.

The villagers of Balaram stated to me that the police alleged

subsequent to the events referred to in the extracts of reports. I may be mitted to ~~to~~ assure you that there is a general impression in my ~~xxxxxx~~ trict that the activities of the police

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that the rebels visited their village on or about 26th December and that the villagers did deny the fact and on account of this incident not being reported to the authorities, the Mokhasadar of Balaram was tried and sentenced by the Taluk Magistrate of Gudem. When the rebels visited the village of Balaram again on 31st December 1923, most of the male population including the said Mokhasadar of Balaram were being detained in the police camp at Krishnadevipet. Therefore, the trial of the Mokhasadar was with reference to the first alleged visit of the rebels to Balaram (26th December 1923) and not with reference to the admitted second visit of 31st December 1923.

The villagers stated to me that information was furnished to the police at Krishnadevipet regarding the second visit of the rebels, firstly at about 6-30 a.m., secondly at 9 a.m. and thirdly at about 11 a.m. They further stated that the police did not send any party till 2 p.m. on the same day. The question for consideration is, whether the police did receive information at about 6-30 a.m. If that be a fact, is the police justified in delaying to send the party till 2 p.m. It is immaterial to the public whether the police party should move in a direction whereby they can outflank the rebels; and it is a matter which shall always be decided by the Commanding Officer. But I suppose you will agree with me that the public should be satisfied as to the delay in sending the said Police party. In this connexion, I may be permitted to mention to you that Mr. Sweney replied to my letter on or about 25th February 1924 that the disposition of the police on the occasion was satisfactory, but did not deny the statements that the police did receive information about 6-30 a.m. on 31st December 1923 regarding the movements of the rebels; and that the Police party was not despatched till about 2 p.m.

The Press Communique states that two Police parties were moved from Krishnadevipet on 31st December 1923. According to the information furnished to me by the residents of Balaram, the first party of the police was marching from Krishnadevipet in some other direction and that, when the said residents informed the moving party about the staying of the rebels in the village of Balaram, they were asked to report the matter at the police station. If this be true, I am inclined to believe, that the movement of the first Police party on 31st December 1923 from Krishnadevipet was not made with the object of outflanking the rebels. It may be possible that

...ent directly to Balaram or to some other place in order to reach the ...s. I do admit that it is a matter of detail whether the rebels should ...rectly chased or whether the police party

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the Police officers at Krishnadevipet might have received information independent of the information furnished by the residents of Balaram and the said Police officers might have despatched the first party. If that be the case, the question arises why the second Police party which started at 2 p.m. was not despatched at 6-30 p.m. to catch the rebels?

I shall be much obliged if you examine the whole question in the light of the above remarks and furnish me and the public with such information as you deem fit.(Part VII. Page 392)

(Press Communique dated/ 12th April 1924, Demi-official from Mr. C.V.S. Narasimharaju, M.L.C., to the Honourable Sir Arthur Knapp, K.C.I.E., C.S.I. C.B.E., I.C.S., Member of Council, dated/ Madras, the April 1924.)

Thank you for your letter which I received about the 20th.

I am afraid it would be impossible for me even if I had the time to enter into a discussion of the details of the tactics which have been and are being followed by our Police forces in the Agency in the attempt to capture the Razu and his gang. As you are yourself aware the task is a most difficult one and it is quite impossible for anyone not on the spot to say with confidence whether the action of the police on a particular occasion was or was not that best suited to the occasion. It is indeed quite possible that what appears as I gather from your letter to be regarded by a section of the public as inactivity on the part of the police may instead represent tactics deliberately adopted as being best calculated to attain our object. This was the case in connection with the Balaram incident. It is obviously impossible to discuss such matters in detail and I can only reiterate the fact that there is nothing which has come to the notice of the Government in connection with the conduct of the campaign which in any way justifies the suggestion of slackness on the part of Mr. Sweney and the officers and men serving under him. I may go further and point out that there is no conceivable reason why the police should desire to neglect any opportunity that opens to them of bringing the campaign to a close. They are carrying on a very arduous work in a trying climate and exposed to hardships and fatigue of which probably the ordinary person has no conception; and no one is more anxious than they to reach the end of their labours.

As I gather from your letter that the public are sufficiently interested....

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interested to desire more frequent news I am trying to arrange for the publication of regular communiques. You will understand however that there are a good many matters connected with the movements of our forces which cannot be divulged lest they should come to the knowledge of the fituridars and assist them in their dispositions(Part VII.Page 394)

(Demi-official from the Honourable Sir Arthur Knapp, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., Member of Council, to M.R.Ry. C.V.S. Narasimha-Raju Garu, M.L.C., Vizagapatam, dated/Nilgiris, the 25th April 1924)

I have just received Sweney's report, dated 1st March 1924, and am suggesting to him that Mr. Narasimharaju would appear to have committed the offence constituted by sections 114 and 193, Indian Penal Code read together, if the evidence of the witnesses who have been convicted of perjury is considered good enough. I am also investigating the conduct of the Tahsildar of Golugonda. But this must wait till Dixon arrives.(Part VII. Page 389)

(Extract from the demi-official C.A. Henderson, Esq., I.C.S., Collector and District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated/ 3rd March 1924.)

Sweney and I agree regretfully that we can do nothing about Mr. Narasimharaju. The evidence that there would be against him of abetment of perjury would be only that of the perjurers themselves. The Legal Practitioners Act is not in force in the Agency. I believe the convicted perjurers are going to appeal to me. They can only do so onX the ground of severity of sentence, as they pleaded guilty. It does not, however, seem to both of us hardly right that a man who has been doing all he could do to obstruct the police here should continue to be the President of the District Board and a Rao Bahadur to boot. As there has been such a fuss about some of these petty cases I am taking some on my own file and hearing them at Krishnadevipet next week, to satisfy myself of the quality of the evidence and the demeanour of the witnesses.

I have not been able to ascertain anything definite as yet in the matter of the Tahsildar of Golugonda against whom Sweney complained, but I imagine the report he received was exaggerated.(Part VII. Page389)

(Extract from the demi-officials from C;A.Henderson, Esq., I.C.S., Collector and District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 12th March 1924)

It is for orders whether any actiion should be taken with regard to Mr. Narasimharaju.

I don't understand the point about the Legal Practitioners Act. Narsapatam where the cases were presumably tried is not in the Agency-- ...where Mr. Narasimharaju is said to have gone. But in any case action under the Legal Practitioners Act would not be of very much use. Pending receipt of orders from the Government of India on our proposal for an ordinance (this went up on the 1 th) I should think it might be advisable to use section 144.

Unrepealed acts, Vol.III, page16.

As regards the Tahsildar of Golugonda mentioned by Mr. Henderson, I think he must be mixing him up with the Tahsildar of Narsapatam mentioned by Mr. Sweney in his report, dated 1st March 1924. (Or/else it is Mr. Sweney's mistake)

G.R.F. Tottenham--19-3-24.

Same person. Narsapatam is the headquarters of the Golugonda taluk.

N.E.M.--19-3-24.

I don't think it would be good policy to proceed against the Member of the Legislative Council under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code. It seems difficult to believe that his exhortations to villagers on the plains can have much effect on the people in the Agency where the rebels are moving. Unless it was absolutely necessary, I submit that any proceedings against him would raise trouble in the Legislative council that would only seriously embarrass a situation difficult enough as it is. In the old days he would of course have met with an accident by now.(Part VII. Page 389)

N.E. Marjoribanks--19-3-24.

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I quite agree. Mr. Sweney suffers from a marked lack of the sense of proportion and seems in this instance to have infected Mr. Henderson.

A.R.K(Napp)--20-3-24.

(It is for orders whether an extract from Mr. Henderson's letter above may be sent to Local Self-Government.

K.R.--19-3-24.

Please see Mr. Sweney's report dated 1st March 1924 and the extracts from Mr. Henderson's demi-officials above.)

Sweney in his Weekly Report, dated 1st March 1924, talks of moving for a prohibitory order under section 144, [illegible]inal Procedure Code, as well as of prosecution under section 121, Indian Penal Code, of the M.L.C. Narasimharaju.

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I am to say that the Government do not think that it would be expedient to take any legal action against the Member of the Legislative Council, at any rate for the present. His exhoratations and possible mischief-making on the plains can hardly have much effect in the Agency area.(Part VII. Page 390)

(Demi-official from N.E. Marjoribanks, Esq., C.S.I., C.I.E., I. Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to C.A. Henderson, Esq., I.C.S., District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, dated 21st March 1924, No.117.)

(Mr. Narasimharaju, M.L.C.--Your demi-official of March 3rd and 12th)

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